





## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## Neighborhood Fund offers support to local non-profits

By ELENI PADDEEN  
For The News-Letter

Seven years ago, the Hopkins Neighborhood Fund was born under the administration of former President William R. Brody to compliment the efforts of the United Way of Central Maryland in improving communities surrounding the University's campuses. Today, the fund continues to provide fiscal support to organizations and is now accepting its 2014 grant applications, which are due on Feb. 12.

Since its founding in 2007, the Neighborhood Fund has given over one million dollars to more than 100 nonprofit organizations concerned with a large variety of community improvement initiatives around Baltimore. However, according to Kathleen Crostic, a Community Programs Specialist at the Hopkins Office of Work, Life and Engagement who oversees the application process, the Neighborhood Fund still has room to grow.

"The news of these grants is genuinely still in the process of spreading," Crostic said.

The fund has distributed grants ranging from roughly \$5,000 to \$15,000 to organizations such as Wide Angle Youth Media to Habitat for Humanity to the Franciscan Center's Healthy Food Initiative.

Organizations that qualify for the grant must be a non-profit with 501(c)(3) status. Furthermore, they must be located within a three-fourths-of-a-mile radius from a Hopkins campus. The Neighborhood Fund aims to support organizations that focus their efforts on community revitalization, education, health,

employment and public safety.

Additionally, the fund requires that all applicants have a sponsor who has a tie to the University and who is willing to sign the grant application. Hopkins employees, retirees, students and alumni are all eligible to act as sponsors.

"For instance, students who intern at nonprofits often help to get their organizations involved with the fund — they can serve as sponsors, and sign the grant application in order to qualify their nonprofit for the grant," Crostic said.

For many students involved with volunteer organizations at Hopkins, funding is a very critical issue.

"Our organization is always looking for new ways to get funding since we only rely on small donations and grants," senior David Forster, treasurer for Greenmount Crossover Basketball, a group based in the Center for Social Concern (CSC) that works on improving Baltimore's schools through the medium of basketball. "Grants like this one from the Neighborhood Fund are a great resource. But I wish they were advertised better on campus."

Beyond helping out the community, some students have posited that a greater presence of non-profit organizations on campus will help improve the student's perception of the city.

"I can honestly say that with more programs out there, it makes me want to go explore them," freshman Andrew Rauch said. "It's very unfortunate that people are so afraid to explore Baltimore. These programs make we want to get out there."

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Teach For America was one of 22 non-profits to receive the grant in 2013.

## New group aims to end extreme poverty

Humanitarian minded students come together in an effort to support sustainable solutions to poverty



COURTESY OF HOPKINS ENDING EXTREME POVERTY

The executive board of Hopkins Ending Extreme Poverty pose outside of the BLC Daily Grind cafe.

By ELENA PENATI  
Staff Writer

This past semester, the University community welcomed the addition of a new outreach club on campus, Hopkins Ending Extreme Poverty (HEEP). HEEP is the Hopkins chapter of the larger non-profit organization, NURU.

The primary aim of HEEP is to raise awareness for extreme poverty and to increase the number of Hopkins students helping to raise money for NURU with its unique approach to ending poverty in third world countries.

Rather than dropping off aid or handouts, which

are often ineffective, short-term solutions, NURU focuses on equipping impoverished areas with the skills and aid for long-term sustainability.

"NURU is really special because it promotes self-sufficiency in third-world countries," sophomore Giana Dawood, president and founder of HEEP, said.

Jake Harriman, a former U.S. marine with a degree from the Stanford University Graduate School of Business, founded NURU after concluding from his experiences in war that extreme poverty will be one of the main causes for terrorism and violent rebellions in the 21st century.

Despite facing several initial obstacles, NURU has made great strides towards improving the long-term conditions of areas tormented by poverty.

Launched in 2008, NURU began its efforts in the Kuria district of Kenya. When members of the organization first arrived, they worked with all levels of the community and conducted research as to find the most efficient ways of harvesting maize, the primary crop in the area. The first crop harvest of the NURU members witnessed a 300 percent increase in yield compared to past years with traditional methods. "[NURU] started off

with their work in Kenya and were there for seven years and so they're just moving out of Kenya now and going to Ethiopia," Dawood said. "Once in Ethiopia, they aim to teach the farmers, work with the political figures and the general public and help educate them on how to become self-sufficient. NURU members work in the fields of healthcare, government, education, water sanitation and they aim to help so that by the time they leave after seven or eight years, the region can sustain itself and work itself out of poverty to prevent future dependency on aid."

Inspired by this new self-sufficient and educational approach to aid, Dawood and several other sophomores were eager to start a chapter at Hopkins.

"What drew us to starting HEEP was the different approach [they took to ending] poverty," Dawood said. "They're not just trying to give them food and give them water — leave them and hope that they can fend on themselves. Not only are they aiding them but also trying to address the issue and solve that issue and spending almost ten years there and working to improve education and any field that contributes to poverty and trying to address it and feel comfortable leaving them to go work in a different country."

Because NURU does not accept any contributions other than monetary donations, HEEP has made its focus hosting various fundraising events each semester. The club kicked off the last semester with a bake sale and is working on planning more outdoor events this semester such as cook-outs and a 5K night rave (NURU is Kiswahili for 'light'). It also hopes to include the efforts of the Panhellenic community on campus.

"We understand that we are a new club," Dawood said, "[but] we really hope to get more people involved and excited by this different and new approach to ending extreme poverty in our lifetime."

## Students help families navigate special education system via HEAR

By JESSICA KIM COHEN  
Staff Writer

Working with children and families in Baltimore's special education system, the Homewood Educational Advocacy Resource (HEAR) group is supporting special-needs children in getting the proper care from their schools.

Specifically, HEAR, a Hopkins student group based in the Center for Social Concern (CSC), helps families navigate the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process. IEPs are tailored modifications to the education program based on individual student needs that help students better achieve their educational goals. These modifications can span anywhere from getting books with bigger text to getting students one-on-one aids.

"There are lots of things, even like getting a child their own seat in the classroom. Some students really like the stability of having their own seat, especially at the front of the room, where they can get more teacher interaction," senior Jennifer Lu, former

president of HEAR, said.

To ensure families are not overwhelmed by the IEP process, HEAR advocates meet with families before IEP meetings to assess each family's goals, attend meetings to work with the schools to make sure each family's needs are met and follow-up with families after the school IEP meetings.

"A lot of the time parents know what they want, but don't know the strategies for how to get it. They don't know what they're legally entitled to or what their options are. This is why we strategize with them before their IEP meeting," sophomore Molly Moore, co-president of HEAR, said.

About 16 percent of students in Baltimore City Public Schools receive special education supports.

"Baltimore isn't the best place for students with special needs. Often the families get bullied a bit by the schools, because of budget-cuts and whatnot," sophomore Lauren Blachowiak, co-president of HEAR, said.

All HEAR members prepare for five weeks before meeting with families

and are taught the policies of the Baltimore City Special Education System. This includes receiving training from organizations that work within the special needs system such as the Arc of Baltimore, which provides support to individuals and families with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and the Maryland Disability Law Center (MDLC), which supplies free legal services to Maryland residents with disabilities.

"We try to keep our training sessions small, which means that although we're trying to help more families, we can't expand too far," Lu said. HEAR has 12 members and serves approximately 20 families. Currently, HEAR is mostly made up of Hopkins undergraduates along with one mother

from Towson.

"A huge part of what draws people to our group is personal connection. Our members also want to help people outside of Hopkins. A lot of groups are focused

A lot of the time parents know what they want, but don't know the strategies for how to get it.

—MOLLY MOORE  
CO-PRESIDENT

and we can help them," Blachowiak said.

Eventually, HEAR wants to set up a relationship with Towson University's College of Education.

"We're trying to expand in the future, but we first want to focus on getting more members at Hopkins, to get a stronger base," Blachowiak said.

A relatively new student group, HEAR began accepting families in Feb. of 2012, after the founders,

Liza Brecher and Rachel Muscat, received a grant from the Intercession 2011 Leading Social Change class.

HEAR members found that as the group became more established it became easier to continue their work.

"Our very first session, we actually had to pay people to come in for our trainings. Now it's more of a volunteer thing, since they have seen what we can do," Lu said.

Rather than actively searching for families as they initially did, HEAR now receives referrals from various organizations that work with special needs families, such as the MDLC.

HEAR has also established a partnership with the Arc Baltimore's Parental Involvement, Educational Plans, Advocacy, Knowledge and Skills (PEAKS) program. The PEAKS program, founded in Oct. 2012, works with children that are in need of special education services, specifically those from homeless families.

"We want HEAR to be an important member of our 'Resource' Rolodex. We

love the dedication shown by the students who volunteer for HEAR program and know that their passion and commitment can only be beneficial," Becky Hartnett, project coordinator for the PEAKS program, wrote in an email to The News-Letter.

HEAR members have found their group to be successful, and are hopeful about the new PEAKS partnership.

"I really enjoy one-on-one advocacy, rather than fundraising or raising awareness because I really get to talk to people and realize how hard their situations are. With raising awareness, you might get that it's hard, but you're not really hearing their personal stories. It's very different to actually go out and talk to a homeless population than when raising awareness about homelessness," Lu said.

Although HEAR is a small group, its members are proud of its progress and expansion in the past two years.

"At first, HEAR really had to go out and scavenge for families. Now, families flood our inbox," Lu said.



## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## Anthropology Dept. hosts NYU professor

Professor Finbarr Flood discusses Islamic art and architecture in first spring colloquium lecture

By MADDIE GOODMAN  
For The News-Letter

A melting pot of undergraduates, graduate students, doctoral candidates, faculty and other interested parties filled a room in Macaulay Hall last Thursday afternoon to hear New York University (NYU) Professor Finbarr Barry Flood lecture on Islamic art and architecture.

Flood, his university's William R Kenan Jr. Professor of the Humanities, spoke on the reception of the image by Islamic cultures.

The Department of Anthropology hosted Flood to open their spring colloquium. Flood's talk was based on a book he is currently working on called, *Figures, Flowers and Photographs: Islam and the Image Revisited*.

Flood focused his talk on the evolving Hadith, or tradition, within Islam with regards to images.

"Insofar as there is a concern with material im-

ages... the problem is not what people assume," Flood said.

Flood focused on the historical origins of Islam's policies regarding the representation of the human form and how the culture is making the transition into modernity with ever-evolving technology to capture images. He described the Hadith as both prescriptive and prescriptive, outlining protocols for having certain types of images and forbidding others.

The idea of representation in art is of utmost importance to the Islamic faith, Flood said. Playing God by creating an image

of an object with a soul is strictly forbidden. Instead, images are repurposed by transforming them into vegetation or minerals.

**I wanted Finbarr Flood to come in part because there is now more interest in Islamic studies on campus.**

—NILOOFAR HAERI,  
ANTHROPOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Partial bodies have been allowed, as often heads would be replaced with images such as flowers, as in the one Flood displayed in his presentation of three bodies with p e o n i e s instead of faces.

"My talk was an attempt to address the idea that Islam is universally hostile to figurative art by drawing out complexities and attitudes to images through showing manuscripts, texts and images," Flood said.

Niloofar Haeri, chair of the Anthropology Department, invited Flood to Hopkins. His multidisciplinary focus and broad interpretations appealed to Haeri and inspired her invite.

"[Flood] has a very broad and ambitious sweep to his work and we thought that many people would be interested," Haeri said.

Photography is seen more as a mirror than as image making, Flood said, adding that the idea of images as a mirror is one

more easily accepted by Islamic authorities. Flood, however, was sure to make the point that there was no singular attitude about figures in images in Islam.

"Through my work I hope to stimulate discussion and conversation across the traditional borders of disciplines," Flood said.

With few classes about Islamic and Middle Eastern studies available on campus, Haeri thought it was important to continue to spark interest in the subject at Homewood.

"I wanted Finbarr Flood to come in part because there is now more interest in Islamic studies on campus and he is a very good representative, in that he does not work on tired old political and historical debates about what 'Islam' is and how it compares to other religions," Haeri said.

Freshmen Carissa Zukowsk and Alexa Rangecroft attended the talk on Thursday. After having read Flood's work in an art history survey course last semester, they were excited to hear what he had to say.

"Seeing him actually speak about [Islamic art] gives a new perspective, we read a bunch of scholars but being able to have the opportunity to hear one speak and also in more detail because we had a survey course and were both interested in Islamic art especially," Rangecroft said.

With interest for Islamic studies growing on campus and few courses offered to satiate such an interest, speakers such as Flood provide the opportunity for students to hear more perspectives.

"Basically the focus of the anthropology department is to be able to get the rest of the campus to get to know the non-European world better," Haeri said.

With a majority of humanities classes at Hopkins focusing on European culture, Haeri believes students should take it into their own hands to learn more about what they are interested in, especially if that's what is going on in different parts of the world.

"The most important thing is for undergraduates to tell their professors, and tell the deans office, and tell their directors of undergraduate studies that this is what they are interested in and they would like to see more of that on campus," Haeri said.

## Film professor Jimmy Joe Roche finds beauty in art

By GULNAR TULI  
Staff Writer

The experience of watching Professor Jimmy Joe Roche's short films is very odd and often visceral. In one film, entitled *Peacing Out*, a rainbow-colored Roche slides slowly towards the camera, fingers outstretched in the universal symbol for peace, for a duration of two and a half minutes. In another, *Lean Cuts for Osama Bin*, Roche portrays a man with a personal, violent message for Osama Bin Laden, set over a picture of a landfill.

According to Roche, his non-traditional method of filmmaking is very deliberate.

"The predominant aesthetic that I've used for the last five years has really been anti-aesthetic... I work a lot with this idea of media that's been discarded or damaged, piecing it together like a patchwork that's hard to pin down," he said.

Though many of Roche's films do not have plots in the traditional sense, they do follow certain narratives. This is the case in "Brown Centipede Jizzum," one of Roche's short films.

"It's a story about recontextualizing an aesthetic, doing something like creating this head that's morphing in a way that almost feels like oil paint, but at the same time there's enough digital there to know that it's something else," he said.

Teaching is a significant aspect of Roche's identity as an artist. For Roche, art is about more than just the creation of individual projects; it is a communal experience.

"The more I teach the more I realize it's not just about making art... It's about making art, teaching art, and facilitating art... Teaching has helped focus me on this idea of the artist being multifaceted," Roche said.

Roche began teaching film at Hopkins in 2010. His "Introduction to Filmmaking" class is yearly staple and he lectures on filmmaking at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) as well. As an artist, Roche engages in mediums beyond just film, including sculpture and visual art.

Many of Roche's short films feature disjointed, crackling sound effects, which, to Roche, are an important part of his craft.

"One thing that I try to create a lot in my films is this tight interaction between sound and pictures. I think a lot of filmmakers in narrative films don't get as deep into linking picture and sound as they can..."

Roche said.

As much of Roche's work is in short film, many of his older pieces are featured on YouTube, a platform that really helped shape his career.

"I think it's really important that there exists a community of filmmakers... outside of the larger film industry. In order to have a truly engaging dialogue something has to be in opposition to that industry," he said.

Though he is interested in teaching other art forms, Roche is most deeply connected to film.

"I think the deepest sort of philosophical view of the world I have is through film. I'm always thinking about reality and philosophy and cinema and the moving image and how they all relate to one another," he said.

Roche has been teaching film for over 10 years now working in New York and later at MICA before arriving at Hopkins.

"I started teaching at Hopkins because it's a wonderful place to teach, and I think the students are really talented and excited about filmmaking... as a person who's passionate about it it's great to be in an environment where people are so invested in learning about filmmaking," he said.

Even if students do not continue making films after his class, Roche believes they still leave with important insights.

"Moving images and film are a language, and it's a language that we all speak... by studying filmmaking you learn things about that language that were always sort of inside your head. You learn this more rich way to interface with something that we all communicate with," he said.

Roche also views filmmaking as a way that students can better understand themselves.

"I try to relate what we're doing to having a richer understanding of yourself, the way that the media we consume affects the way that you're living basically adding a kind of metaphysical underpinning to 'let's learn how to make film,'" he added.

Sophomore Daniel Contaldo, who is currently taking Roche's intermediate digital filmmaking class, expressed his enthusiasm about the experience.

"What I love most about him is that anything we produce, any short clip we're showing in class, he'll spend five minutes looking at and showing over and over to the class, finding the beauty in it."

## Errata: Nov. 7

In the Nov. 7 edition of *The News-Letter*, the photograph that accompanied the article entitled "The Arctic hasn't been this warm in centuries" was incorrectly credited. Jack D. Ives took the photograph.

*The News-Letter* regrets this error.

## 'Rare Theatrical Magic.'

— Tim Smith, Baltimore Sun

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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## FAS headliners hail from across political spectrum

FAS, FROM A1

"One of the inspirations for our symposium this year as a whole was alumna Anne Smedinghoff," FAS Co-chair Nikhil Gupta said.

A former executive director of FAS, Smedinghoff was killed last April in a suicide bombing while delivering textbooks to Afghan schoolchildren.

"She was someone who always strove... to make bigger change," Gupta said of Smedinghoff. "But if you look at how she wanted to do it, it was in a really practical setting. People like her are why we're really all in this."

One of the bigger names in the series, West is a former professor at Harvard, Princeton and other renowned universities, as well as a philosopher, activist and public intellectual who appears frequently on television and radio.

Much of his published work and discourse focuses on race in America, including his 1994 book *Race Matters*, as well as other books, academic papers and albums.

One of the more provocative speakers chosen was Bolton, whose nomination as U.S. ambassador to the U.N. by former President Bush in 2005 was met with a fierce Democratic filibuster and was only appointed during a congressional recess. *The Economist* has called him "the most controversial ambassador ever sent by America to the United Nations."

Bolton's outspoken views on foreign policy coupled with his abrasive rhetoric have brought him much attention since his U.N. appointment. He is known for his hardline support for U.S. military intervention around the world, including his support for the Bush administration's actions surrounding the war in Iraq, and his vocal support for military strikes against Iran.

Bolton is also somewhat famous for his strong critical views on the U.N. itself. In 1994 he said that, "there is no United Nations... there is an international community that occasionally can be led by the only real power left in the world, and that's the United States, when it suits our interests, and when we can get others to go along."

He has also stated in an interview that he would reduce the U.N. Security Council to just one member.

Politics aside, Bolton's bold pragmatism was part of what made him an attractive option to FAS as a speaker.

"The position of ambassador you would assume to be a really idealistic position... someone who is really going for a romanticized view of the world... and he is quite the opposite," Gupta said.

Governor O'Malley, while a seemingly obvious choice, is also a particularly topical one as he is a rising star in the Democratic Party.

Widely considered one of

the most successful contemporary governors, O'Malley recently signed into law a bill legalizing same-sex marriage in Maryland, as well as a bill allowing certain undocumented immigrants to access the same in-state tuition rates as citizens.

Due to term limits, O'Malley will be unable to run for re-election in 2014, however he is a rumored presidential candidate for 2016 and has publicly expressed ambitions for a presidential run.

The "Re-evaluating the NSA" debate will be a somewhat new innovation for this year's symposium. Past years have featured panel discussions, but this is the first time in recent history that the symposium has featured a full-on debate.

As the director of the NSA from 1999-2005, Hayden oversaw the warrenless wiretapping programs that many objected to during the Bush administration and is expected to address government surveillance policies as well as the current debate surrounding the Snowden leaks and current NSA activities.

"We saw an opportunity to get a really frank and open discussion on the NSA and the balance between security and privacy," Gupta said of the choice to host the debate.

Debating Hayden will be Cole, a professor and lawyer who is a noted defender of civil liberties and litigator for First Amendment cases.

A brief spot of levity in an otherwise serious lineup, Feb. 26 will bring writers from the satirical news website *The Onion* to Shriver Hall, in an event co-sponsored by The Hop. They will speak about the history of *The Onion*, as well as current political issues.

While an unconventional choice for FAS, the move reflects the ever-growing prominence of satire in the news media.

"The nature of satire fits very well within our theme," Gupta said. "[The writers at *The Onion*] really do get at the core of the issue, and in unconventional ways occasionally."

The series concludes on April 16 with Jackley, the co-founder and former CFO of Kiva.org, a micro-finance website which provides small business loans to entrepreneurs in developing world.

The website is unique in that it allows anyone to lend money — as little as \$25 — at a zero percent interest rate and matches them with a specific development project. Kiva.org has been praised by *Time Magazine* and *The Economist*, and rated as a four star charity by Charity Navigator.

FAS will also be teaming up with other organizations on campus to host receptions for each event; College Democrats will be sponsoring a reception for O'Malley, College Republicans for Bolton and the Office of Multicultural Af-

## Hackathon inspires student innovations

HOPHACKS, FROM A1

as MIT, the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County participated.

The winning team used the Oculus Rift virtual reality gaming headset to create a three-dimensional audio visualizer application called SoundCave.

"We'd take a song and analyze it and be able to sit in the room and watch the music play out in front of your eyes in physical form," Tabatchnick said. "You see the wave-form things bouncing to the music."

Tabatchnick said he and his team developed SoundCave to create an interactive music experience.

"iTunes [has] a visualizer that reacts to the music, too," Tabatchnick said. "But the thing with that is you can't interact with it. You can't be put inside of it; it's flat. So we wanted to create something you could immerse yourself in."

Senior Nick Ginsberg placed second and won \$512 with his application called Shattered Glass, which utilizes the sensors on Google Glass to determine if the user is involved in conditions resembling a car accident and to notify a central server in case of an accident, in case the driver was incapacitated.

Google Glass, the new mini computer that is mounted on a pair of eyeglasses, has recently raised safety concerns, especially when the user is driving. Ginsberg said his aim was to turn Google Glass from "a safety hazard into a safety feature."

"I decided that an app like the one I made, which runs silently in the background until something bad happens, would actually be something drivers would want to have and could help save lives if something bad did happen," Ginsberg said.

Juniors Azwad Sabik and Rohit Bhattacharya placed third and won \$256 for their application, Winsight, which is intended to serve a "previously unfulfilled role" in multiplayer online battle arena gaming.

Sabik said that through image analysis and optimization algorithms, Winsight identifies the composition of the opposing team using a single screenshot of the character selection screen and recommends advantageous team compositions.

"Our methods of utilizing a screen-capture based analysis and full-team counters are actually somewhat novel in the realm of competitive gaming," Sabik said.

Bhattacharya said the frustration of getting "rolled over" by teams with better composition when playing games like Dota 2 and League of Legends inspired him and Sabik to create Winsight.

"We saw the need, identified a solution, and put it into practice," Bhattacharya said.

ner and Matt Cook, CIO of SocialToaster, a startup that helps companies increase their social media

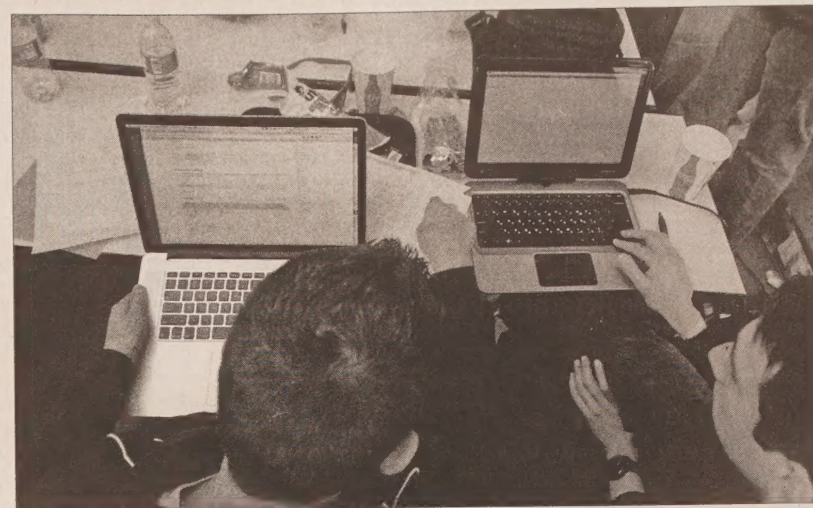
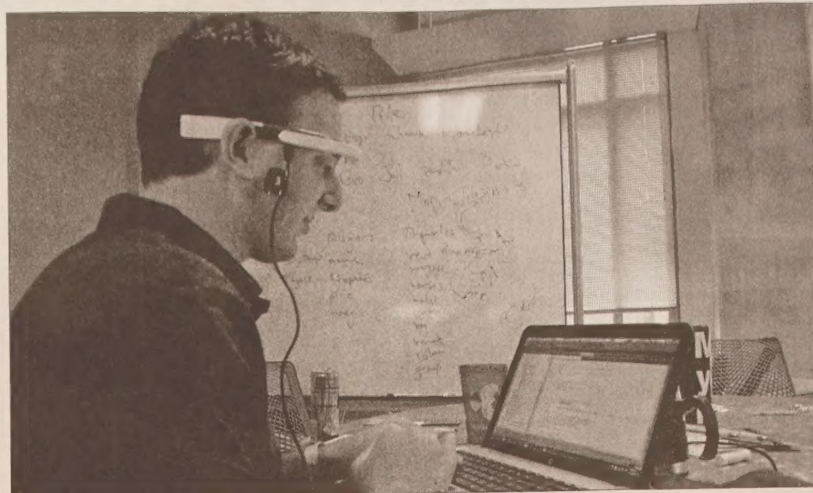
Froelich said the idea of an open-ended hackathon like the HopHacks, which gives participants free reign to develop whatever they want, was foreign to him at first.

"But now that I've seen two and what they were able to produce, I think it's an excellent way for students to show off their skills and their enthusiasm," Froelich said.

Eisner said that although the applications and websites students created were "great," he hopes to see more computer science-based products aimed at developers in future HopHacks.

"[Computers] can also compute," Eisner said. "I'd love to see a team hack up

some amazing new algorithm to analyze images or break codes or compose music. You could spend 36 hours creating a single new ingredient, instead of stir-frying existing ingredients."



BEA SO/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Top: A HopHacks participant sporting Google Glass works on developing his application during the 36-hour contest. Bottom: Students stayed up all night programming and collaborating in an effort to win the top prize.

The students' applications were judged for usefulness, technical difficulty, innovation and polish by Hopkins Computer Science professors Dr. Peter Fröhlich, Dr. Scott Smith, Dr. Jason Eis-

presence.

"The best ideas made me say 'I wish I'd thought of that,'" Eisner said. "The best implementations made me say 'I wish I knew how to pull that off in a weekend.'"

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WIKIPEDIA COMMONS

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley is flirting with a run for the presidency.



## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# University at work on plans for new student union, campus center

**STUDENT UNION, FROM A1** Washington, D.C., were recently selected by the University to consult on the design of the new facility. Shollenberger and others involved in the project sat down with the firms for the first time in mid-January to start work on what is called a "site capacity" study, the next step in the development process.

The area in and around the Mattin Center and in the vicinity of the Brody Learning Commons is the focus of a broader "student union/campus center" feasibility study, which originated last year with the forming of a task force made up of both staff and students.

"[We asked] where is the heart of the campus?" Uni-

versity Architect Jim Miller said. "It was like these concentric circles that kept coming down to the Beach, the library, the Brody Learning Commons and Mattin Center and kind of overlapping into Charles Commons."

"At the end of the day, we can't leave the Mattin Center exactly as it is and succeed," Miller added.

Ann Beha Architects, which impressed officials with its urban planning skills, and Gustafson Guthrie Nichol are looking to present the University by May with three basic options for the site including rough cost estimates. Officials will be evaluating a range of possibilities, from razing existing buildings to modifying the

Mattin Center and possibly enclosing the courtyard in an atrium.

"I think the key there is really, again, trying to come up with a design that is rooted in not just the place as a site but the place as a culture. And trying to find what's unique about it and emphasize it and and strengthen it, hopefully," Rodrigo Abela, the principal of Gustafson Guthrie Nichol's office in Washington, D.C., said.

In doing research, Shollenberger and Miller did site visits of several other universities last year, speaking with students at a renovated, historic music building at the University of Pennsylvania and touring the campus center at the University of Washington in St. Louis.

"What we want the campus center to be is that it really brings the campus community together, that students really feel like it's a place I can just go and hang out, relax, de-stress, have some fun," Shollenberger said.

Among the major focuses of the plan will be added dining choices, hangout spaces, which facilitate so-called "serendipitous interactions," community space for big events and performances as well as office space for some if not all student services.

Shollenberger is also thinking about how to make the new student union or campus center act as a welcoming front doorstep to the Homewood Campus.

"The other thing, which was interesting for me about this project, was not only the landscape but really looking at the whole traffic flow of campus and

looking at how students enter the campus and how are they welcomed on to campus by the building," Shollenberger said.

The "student union/campus center" project is part of a more comprehensive University drive to reshape the 33rd Street corridor by reconfiguring some space in Charles Commons and building a mixed-used residential and retail facility on the Olmsted lot at the corner of St. Paul Street and 33rd Street.

The ideas for 33rd Street are based on a study last year by planning firm Sasaki Associates that looked at residential and retail options and the big picture of student life near the intersection of the Homewood Campus and Charles Village.

"[O]ne of the reasons we're calling it 'student union/campus center' rather than 'student center' or 'student union' is because we think of this as, it it might not be a singular facility, it might be that there are some disbursed functions but we want to be bringing them together into a 'district,'" Miller said.

A working group comprised of students and representatives from various University departments — from athletics to housing and dining services — is acting as a sounding board for the developing "student union/campus center" plans. Shollenberger said that his office will be trying to engage the student body in general more this semester in order to get feedback.

"It's exciting, it's hard, it's a really difficult project. Not in terms of a student union but in terms of the site and getting this right," Miller said.

## Political groups reclassified, lose funding

**FUNDING, FROM A1** hobby groups does include SAC annual grants.

"In 2006, they switched over. We're not really sure why, and our director, [Director of Student Activities Robert] Turning, isn't sure why because he wasn't here then either. But from 2006 to a week ago, they were not Advocacy and Awareness [groups]," Schupper said.

Recently, the SGA voted on a measure to reclassify the three groups as Advocacy and Awareness organizations, which a majority of the members felt better fit the groups' purposes.

"We thought that based on their definitions and their political actions and causes such as the other groups in Advocacy and Awareness such as the Feminists, Voice For Choice, Voice For Life, etcetera, that they belonged in Advocacy and Awareness," Schupper said.

Notably, the issue of inconsistent classification was prompted by a bill introduced in the SGA relating to the controversy surrounding the pro-life group Voice For Life in April of last year.

"A lot of this stems back to the Voice For Life thing,"

Vice President of the Hopkins College Republicans Andrew Guernsey said. Guernsey is also the president of Voice for Life. "There were some students on student government who did not want to see any University funding go to Voice For Life."

The bill that was introduced advocated cutting off all funds from groups categorized as Advocacy and Awareness, but it failed to pass.

"We were arguing that the University is a better place for free discourse when groups have some funds to advocate their positions, both sides," Guernsey said. "That's part of what makes the University great — free discourse."

Despite the bill's failure, this issue fueled the SGA's decision to clarify political group categorization.

"I think [the change] probably has to do with other political controversies on campus, and I don't think it's fair that we would be punished for someone else's controversies or funding problems," Resnick said.

Although the new distinctions led to financial change, many SGA members contend that the fund-

ing modifications will not cause any significant damage to the groups.

"It's not as much of a budget cut because they're still able to allocate monthly grants and to apply for monthly grants. So they're entitled to, in theory, as much money as they were if they applied for an annual budget. The only difference is now they are applying on a monthly basis," Schupper said.

SGA members also say that the periodic application process also promotes firmer checks on budgetary equality.

"By leaving it to a monthly grant discussion, we can make sure that we can match them up so that they are fair," Executive Treasurer Dylan Gorman said.

Still, on campus organizations have begun to feel the strain of tighter funding requirements.

"It has affected us a bit in so far as we have less," Guernsey said. "Having an annual budget gave us more flexibility to know how much money we have to use. In a sense [the change] makes things a little more complicated in terms of planning events."

Beyond scheduling and

fundraising for events, group leaders assert that the political atmosphere on campus risks being dimmed.

"I'm very upset about it," Resnick said. "I think it's pretty offensive to the club and to the school because political activism on campus is not super strong, and any way that [political groups' budgets] would be cut anymore is just not great for the community."

As a result, the Hopkins College Democrats are mounting a campaign to publicize the issue.

"We might try and do something around SOHOP sort of saying 'if you're coming here for Political Science or International Studies, which is obviously a big department, it might be difficult to make some of the extracurricular things because next year they told us our funding is going to be zero,'" Resnick said.

Guernsey called attention to the resultant stifling of groups' abilities to carry out their intended purposes.

"It's important that we be able to advocate for our beliefs without having to spend time we could be using advocating for our beliefs fundraising," he said.

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The Breezeway

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Wednesday, February 26th  
11:00am - 2:00pm  
Levering Hall: Glass Pavilion

### Homewood Neighborhood Open House

Saturday, March 2nd  
11:00am - 2:00pm  
Charles Village, Roland Park, Hampden

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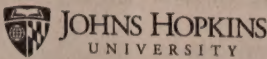
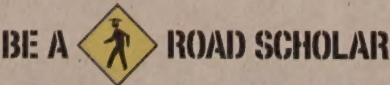
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Hillary Clinton @HillaryClinton · Feb 2

It's so much more fun to watch FOX when it's someone else being blitzed & sacked! #SuperBowl


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Any time that HRC tweets, everyone collectively freaks out, but this tweet was particularly sassy and perfectly timed during the Super Bowl. Take that, Fox News.



JCPenney @jcpenney · Feb 2

Who kkmew theis was ghiong tob e a baweball ghamle. #lowsscoringh 5\_0


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So whoever was running this Twitter account swears that they weren't drunk but instead had a case of #Tweeting-WithMittens. So you weren't reading your tweets before you sent them? It's okay to admit you were drunk — most of America was, too.



Portlandia @lfcportlandia · Feb 2

RETWEET if the sole reason you are watching the #SuperBowl is so you can tweet about sexist commercials. #feminism #Portlandia #NotBuyingIt

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Accounts like this are the reason to spend your entire Super Bowl in front of Twitter instead of actually watching the game. Especially if you want to call the Super Bowl out on its sexism.



Dave Izkoff @ditzkoff · Feb 2

"This is the job I always wanted, and I had the best time." - @sethmeyers  
pic.twitter.com/9BpU09xqQW

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For diehard *Saturday Night Live* fans, it was emotional seeing Seth Meyers do his last "Weekend Update" ever and hilarious when Amy Poehler and "Stefon Myers" joined in. Not everyone was thrilled with the show this week, though, so be sure to also check out #SaturdayNightLies.



Ellen Brait @ebrait · Jan 31

"You should totally bag her the day before Valentines Day. That's desperation day." @OverheardAtJHU

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We're still a few weeks away from Valentine's Day, but our Editor-In-Chief was doing some stellar reporting and #overheard this gem.

Capturing family memories — and craziness

How I learned that capturing family memories on video is more important than having them as photos

Even before there were throwback Thursdays on Instagram, looking through old photo albums was always something my family and I ended up doing whenever there was a lull in activity. We must have at least 10 varying sizes of photo albums stacked in the kitchen closet. Every time we flip through the pages full of pictures from when we were all young, my mom and dad recount the stories that went along with a select few. Two pictures that always get the main stage are of my sister holding me in a pool in Florida, and my brother hanging like a monkey off of my parent's bed frame. The background stories that came along with them summed up the fact that my fear of the water started at a tender young age, and my brother was always so full of energy that he had to resort to flinging himself onto the bed at least 20 times a day. Only these and a few others get a funny story, but the rest are just moments in time in which the background story has been completely forgotten. For this reason, I try to take videos of what we randomly do, but it just so happens that my phone is never in sight when the most hilarious things happen.

Fortunately for me, my mom managed to get a great video the other day and then sent it to me. For as long as I can remember, I have been crazy about people playing with my hair—a good crazy where if you started playing with a curl you had better be prepared to sit down and keep at it for more than 10 minutes. My sister is the exact same way, so it wasn't surpris-

Amanda Garcia  
Fam Bam

ing that she managed to buy some spider-looking head massager, which is actually called a head massager spider. The video started with my brother up on the chopping block. Once the massager covered his head, his whole body started to convulse, and if it weren't for him laughing, I would have thought he was having a seizure: it was that serious. Things

only got better from there when my brother set my sister onto Cirillo, who jetted across the room hiding his head. Then it happened—the highlight of the clip—when my sister turned to the smallest one of the bunch, Joselito. If a casting director were in search of a one year old that could freeze the blood in someone's veins, Joselito would have gotten the role because his look of utter betrayal was too much to handle. Let's just say I have watched this video at least five times a day since and have truly come to appreciate being able to record family memories.



SHOOTINGBROOKLYN VIA FLICKR

The best family memories are the craziest ones, especially the ones that have been caught on camera.

@rachel\_witkin  
Tweets of the Week

This weekly column features some of the top posts around the Twitter realm that deal with the week's top stories in sports, politics, pop culture and all things news.

New semester, new year, new goals

If you think about it, resolutions make no sense. Practically speaking, that is—since they almost never last. You always find yourself making all of these grand plans at the start of the year only to pig out on the leftovers of that fantastic cake you had on New Year's soon after. Despite knowing that

Elsheba Abraham  
Beyond the Hop

anyway, we still stride on in our quest for living a better year. There are always second chances and more opportunities for us to prove to ourselves that we are strong enough to resist temptation. Having that notion in mind is the reason why I believe that the beginning of spring semester holds so much more promise than the fall. Not only is it just the start of a semester but also the start of an entire year. That means it is a new year that is not marred by any of the stupid mistakes we've done yet (because, let's be real, there are always stupid mistakes), and we're free to make the best choices we can. That is why I have put together a tiny checklist of goals we should have in mind as we start the new semester back at Homewood. Regardless of whether it's your last semester ever in college (time flies doesn't it?) or your first, you definitely want to make this one a semester to remember. How better to do this than to have a great attitude coming in?

Despite knowing that the rules we make are going to be broken anyway, we still stride on in our quest for living a better year.

1. Avoid procrastination. We've all been there before. Contrary to what we might like to believe, ignoring the fact we have homework doesn't make it go away. In fact, the work seems to double from the moment we take our eyes off of it. It's actually still early enough in the semester to not have an unbearable amount of work yet, so my recommendation is to get started on it now. Your fatigued body 10 weeks from now will thank you for this.
2. Get involved on campus. When else will you get the chance to casually learn how to juggle with fire? College is a great time to try things you would never try any other time and also to pursue your interests with a deeper passion. Just going

to the SAC fair (which is on Feb. 20) will make you realize just how much of a variety of activities we have on campus. Choose something that interests you, and put your heart into it; there's nothing more fulfilling than doing something worthwhile outside the classroom.

3. Check out Baltimore. Not everyone may love this quirky city we're in, but Baltimore really does have it's own perks to offer. You can start out by dining at some of the best restaurants with student-friendly prices during Restaurant Week (Feb. 16 to Feb. 23). Later in the spring semester, you can check out Sherwood Gardens (about a 10 minute walk from campus) for its beautiful tulips that will make you actually believe for a minute that you're in the Netherlands.
4. Spend more quality time with friends. The best part (or the worst, depending on how you look at it) of college is the fact that we're always surrounded by people: people in class, others in the library and friends in our dorms. Quantity doesn't mean quality though—so especially when it gets to the hectic part of the semester, just remember to take some time off of your busy schedule to just chill with friends. At the very least, your enormous workload will be made slightly more bearable if you suffer through it together.
5. SPRING FAIR. It's that one magical weekend that we all look forward to. Food trucks abound on campus, great stalls selling random treasures, live bands on the beach and, of course, the Beer Garden. There's this amazing carefree atmosphere at Hopkins during those three days, which is actually the best thing ever. April 24 better come quick. You could ask anyone on campus, and most people are going to tell you that spring semester is the most fun semester. Between getting to know your friends better, getting used to the rigorous schedule (if that's even possible) and the magic of Spring Fair, the next four months are going to be interesting to say the least. So stock up shamelessly on the resolutions and goals, and let's make this the best semester yet.



BUT ALSO observations, rants, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and, of course, sex.

# Balancing the runway and your wardrobe

When it comes to sartorially expressing oneself, there are two tactics that the strategic enthusiast employs. First, she identifies her charming quirks and current fascinations and collects statement pieces capable of highlighting her unorthodoxy. These items may include — but are not limited to — leather fringed batwing tops, white hexagonal shades and lace-up platform booties decorated with unicorns. This method essentially involves building what I like to call one’s “fashion repertoire,” or the visual sartorial vocabulary with which one identifies herself at the present moment.

To create a bit of solidity to this otherwise theoretical conception, take the following ridiculous example of how I recently proceeded to construct my own fashion repertoire. After taking an interest in sixteenth century

Elizabethan fashion, I became fixated on the combination of dreamy textures, the elaborate ornamentation, the characteristically Spanish Baroque somberness and the magnificent reticella lace ruffs. I found myself in a state of near nostalgia for a style so perfectly fussy and extravagant that I felt a dire need to embody what would otherwise be considered “tawdry patterns and a giant cat flea collar” (am I right?).

So after weeks of keeping an eye out for a garment with some kind of Elizabethan-inspired element, I purchased a lovely beige BCBGMAXAZRIA blouse with a large pleated neck ruff as well as matching pleated cuff ruffs. I incorporated it into my existing “sartorial repertoire” by adding an element that currently fascinated me on a creative level and which was able to express a unique

eccentric quality of myself. After a few months, however, I have incorporated new pieces to my sartorial vocabulary, eliminated others and have temporarily placed my Elizabethan ruffs on the sidelines. This is not to say that fleeting passions are valueless; on the contrary, part of self-expression through fashion involves experimentation with seemingly peculiar objects of interest. However, when expressing oneself sartorially, it is most important to develop an enduring and authentic representation of oneself, capable of emitting one’s consistent identity — something we aficionados like to call “style.”

This brings us to the fashionista’s second strategic tactic when pursuing sartorial self-expression: After identifying the defining elements of her character, she decides to embody them through basic key pieces,

such as a distressed black leather jacket to highlight her edgy confidence, or an antique cameo pendant to articulate her feminine sophistication. This second method can be thought of as the more critical modus operandi of self-expression because it defines one’s stable, unchanging and authentic nature, rather than the fickle preferences influenced by constantly changing trends, ultimately causing one to purchase those ridiculous glow-in-the-dark platform loafers (which I recently purchased, thank you very much!) that will be out of your closet sooner than you can say “Manolo Blahnik.”

Style, as opposed to fashion, is embedded into the way one relates to others, in the way one feels about herself and in the way she presents herself to the world. To embody style through sartorial pieces is to understand one’s authentic self and to decorate one’s body with pieces so representative of one’s personality, they can be thought of as more than just garments, but as a material extension of one’s immaterial nature. It is a wonderfully elegant girl wearing the same pearl necklace day after day because its feminine subtlety matches the sophistication she carries herself with. It is a spontaneous free spirit wearing a full tulle skirt, mint green Manolos and a beaded Indian clutch. It is my unflinching inclination to drape myself in dreamy fabrics and intricate embellishment to embody my overarching sense of aesthetics that guides virtually every facet of my life. It is the enduring sense of self guiding one’s unique views, relationships and dignity that defines style. As Coco once said, “fashion fades, only style remains the same.”



ENCHANTEE VIA FLICKR  
The key to the perfect wardrobe is knowing how to combine elements of high fashion with your personal style.

# Men, women and everyone in between

Appreciating the beauty in everyone at Hopkins

Men, men, men. My most favorite writers are men, favorite painters, favorite directors, philosophers, musicians, comedians, mathematicians, entrepreneurs. When I imagine The Most Epic House Party of All Time, the guest list is dominated by men. The whole room is probably filled with smoke, I can hardly see who’s who, and it may not even matter.

There’s Camus and Kant debating. Franz Kafka showed up but went home, overwhelmed by the number of attendees and ennui.

Oscar Wilde is the life of the party, telling fabulously decadent anecdotes (I think Lorca may have a crush on him).

There’s Hemingway of course — oh, let’s hope he doesn’t start a fight with poor Scottie Fitzgerald standing near the window staring at something yellow (wow, that’s a lot of hair gel, Scott).

Allan Poe is petting the raven in a cage while casually chatting with Sylvia Plath.

Kubrick and Cobain, Kahlo and Lennon, Gauss and Jobs, van Gogh and Warhol.

As you can see, mostly men. I am not complaining: I love men, especially Hopkins men with their flawless style (hoodies anyone?) and clueless smiles. Endearingly obvious but very school smart.

“Hopkins guys and their new or old beards (there is constantly something going on with their facial hair),” “Hopkins guys and their games of Pokemon or Dota,” “Hopkins guys and Oh-Man-I-Was-So-Gone-Last-Night,” “Hopkins guys and misused winkly faces,” — I could be the next Joan Rowling!

Then, of course, there are the in-betweens.

Dazed and confused and long given up on definitions, they make me question the realness of the whole gender concept. We messed up from the very beginning, I think, whether or not you can have offspring with the object affection is irrelevant. We don’t owe an easy way out to society. Why be approachable if you can be interesting? Aren’t we all the same?

Girls. Oh my, girls. While my sexual orientation is pretty traditional, girls, bro, ahh, girls. Little clogs of mascara between their lashes with super extra volume, length, the blackest black of all blacks.

So aware of trends:

Spring/Summer 2014, metallic colors, Paris Fashion Week, floral prints (groundbreaking). Girls with their cute purple organizers with study sessions planned out, girls who don’t analyze text messages from admirers because they know exactly what they mean, girls with braids, ombre hair and slightly uneven eyeliner wings. Girls who know what goes with what but also know exactly when it doesn’t matter. My Hopkins girls, the brunettes, mainly, with a stingy fear of not getting what’s on the agenda at the moment and dreams of getting whatever will feel like happiness and fulfillment.

“Raise your hand if you plan to have a family of your own sometime in the future,” a professor said once, probably to satisfy his own curiosity. Many more guys than girls raised their hands. We are shouting at the world that we are not the typical girl, a collective portrait made of movie characters and life from long ago. We’re not going to trap you in a promise, in a deal, in motherly tenderness. Open relationship? Sure. Let’s go dancing! Let’s go Dutch. Let’s go. Let go.

We weed out the toxic friends, we normalize our sleep schedules. We fret about which foods are “bad for you,” we apologize for our opinions and ideas. We orchestrate our social media presence and keep alive more relationships than we want. Networking gets you everywhere, doesn’t it? Women’s art is closer to Earth, ex-

## Katie Barat What Katie Did

# Side-eyes and Scandal: 10 black girl “wins”

There is no more depressing time for a black female in the United States than during the months of February and March. The intersectionality of our race and gender smacks us in the face for the 28 days of Black History Month as we reminisce on the hardships of being black followed by the 31 days of reflecting on the struggles faced by women in this country.

However, there is much more to these months than harping on the dark past so instead of focusing on black girl problems, here are 10 black girl “wins” to prove that we don’t have to spend the next couple of weeks hating everyone who can’t relate to us:

1. Finding matching foundation. There is a special place in our hearts for cosmetic companies that acknowledge the fact that black females come in more shades than just “medium” and “deep.” Discovering a foundation that matches our skin tones exactly can take months — even years — so when it happens, we can literally hear angels sing.
2. Jeans that actually fit. Forget drugs; there’s no better high than shimmying into a pair of jeans that fit without that awkward gap at the back of the waistline or showing everyone that you took advantage of the latest underwear sale at Victoria’s Secret.
3. Resilient hair tools. “Snap” — it’s the scariest sound to a black girl as she’s doing her hair. Hearing this typically means that yet another hair tie/bobby pin/comb/brush has been sacrificed as tribute during the Hurricane Games-like battle of taming our tresses. Every hairstyle completed without a funeral for a hair tool is worthy of a gold medal.
4. Lipstick that doesn’t make you look like a clown. The second makeup lesson that black girls learn (after the elusive-ness of matching foundation, of course) is that certain shades of lipstick applied to lips of certain shapes result in the illusion of a Botox job gone horribly wrong. Using the right shade can take you from looking like Bozo to rivaling Beyoncé.
5. Michelle Obama. She’s the First Lady of the United States, she has degrees from Princeton University and Harvard Law School, and her hair is always laid; Barack wasn’t the only person who won when he was elected President — Michelle won, and black



CHERL12345 VIA FLICKR  
Why always focus on black girl problems with a flawless FLOTUS like Michelle to show us how to win?

females across the country won, too.

6. Scandal. This show wins because of how groundbreaking it is, what with it being written by Shonda Rhimes and featuring Kerry Washington as the first black female lead in a network drama since 1974. Also, Olivia Pope’s forearm-length gloves are bound to find their way into history textbooks sometime soon.
7. Maintaining a hairstyle for more than one day. Fact: Beyoncé wrote the lyric “I woke up like this” after waking up with her head scarf still intact. Master second and third day hair, and you’ll feel flawless, too.
8. Friends who share their hair products. It’s no accident that the majority of these wins have to do with hair, since it’s the source of many a black girl

problem. Having friends who are going through the same thing helps, though, especially if they share that 32-ounce jar of Eco Styler gel or let you try out their new Oyin pomade.

9. Black models in high fashion. It can be rough growing up in a society that values Eurocentric standards of beauty (or going to a school with a guy who ranted on JHU Confessions about how black women are essentially ugly). Seeing black women getting recognition in an industry that previously shunned them is definitely a win.
10. The side-eye. It’s a super power possessed by black girls everywhere: the ability to communicate contempt, distrust and immense amounts of shade with just a quick glance from the corner of our eyes — especially effective when trying to avoid the “angry black girl” stereotype. When intersectionality gets you down, side-eyes work better than frowns.

## Keryce Chelsi Henry Editor

We don’t owe an easy way out to society. Why be approachable, if you can be interesting? Aren’t we all the same?

humes emotions with cutting edges or stories about ethereal or eternal youth. All these men, we used to worry about them too much, now we worry too little.

I love girls, with their Pinterest boards and bits of abstract gossip just because it’s funny. I love their clicking heels and perfume-drenched scarves, their silly insecurities and inebriated compliments.

I love the “other girls,” too. Ex-boyfriends’ new girls, potential boyfriends’ potential girlfriends, girls who flirt with my boyfriends. “How can you not hate the girls? What if they are pretty?” asks a friend of mine.

With so much pressure from the world to be everything that we can be, I can feel what they feel, I am what they are — we are all just trying to steal some warmth, some fireworks from the world. I look around at my sorority sisters and know that they understand it, too; we are all in the same shaky boat of self-esteem and Wonderland mirrors, self-accusations and decisions that feel right, erratic estimations of the levels of “cool” and pools of mixed emotions.

Now, I sit back and try to BALance, balANCE, BALANCE it all.



THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Editorial

Oscar Martinez-Yang

SGA, SAC decision stifles activism

Recently, the Student Government Association (SGA) and the Student Activities Commission (SAC) handed down a decision that reclassified the student groups Hopkins College Democrats, Hopkins College Republicans and Hopkins Feminists as “Advocacy & Awareness” groups — a change from their previous classification as “Special Interest & Hobby” groups. The major consequence of this change is an approximate 97 percent funding cut from almost \$4,000 to \$250.

The Editorial Board believes that the Democrats, Republicans and Feminists groups were not informed of this budget cut early enough in the process. The affected clubs had already planned activities around the budgets they believed were theirs. In our view, such an unexpected decision should have come with a sound explanation.

However, the explanation remains unsatisfying and opaque. How can the line between “Advocacy & Awareness” and “Special Interest & Hobby” be so clear that they involve a \$3,750 difference in funding, yet so vague that clubs

can easily slide back and forth between the two labels? It is confusing how the issue of budget allocation is so black-and-white that clubs can receive drastic monetary cuts simply because of a semantic reclassification.

The SGA Executive President Alex Schupper said himself that “it wasn’t as much of a financial issue as a group naming issue.” However, this is a financial issue — one in which thousands of dollars have been suddenly wrested from established clubs that have been using them for legitimate purposes in the past.

At a school that is already largely apolitical, this move seems discouraging for future political discourse. At a school with so many financial resources, this move seems autocratic when directed at clubs that have operated legitimately in the past. The suddenness of this decision, coupled with its mystifying non-explanation, seems to do little except leave several clubs in a difficult position and create an atmosphere unfavorable to student activism and organization.



LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be e-mailed to [chiefs@jhnewsletter.com](mailto:chiefs@jhnewsletter.com) for inclusion in a Thursday issue. All letters received become property of The News-Letter. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include contact information and cannot be anonymous. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

Student center a welcome addition

Wherever there is a vibrant community of young people in close proximity to one another, it is only fitting that they should have a place to interact. College students in particular need a meeting point for coffee breaks in between classes or casual after-hour get-togethers with their peers. It is for this reason that universities across the country have built their students a special building just for them — a place to hang out with friends, host social functions on the weekends or simply unwind after a long day’s work. On any given day, visitors to these schools can expect to see a huge portion of the students congregated in this building, enjoying one another’s company and at ease in their natural habitat.

Hopkins, too, has such a place. It’s called the library, and it’s full of stressed out bookworms pulling frantic all-night study binges in stifling silence.

Thankfully, that is about to change. Hopkins recently announced that plans are underway to build a “student union campus center” complete with dining choices, hangout spaces, performance areas and the offices of most major student services. The proposed location is the Mattin Center,

which would be renovated according to plans that will be drawn up this spring.

The Editorial Board lauds this initiative. In fact, we think it is long overdue. Hopkins has a reputation as an intensely studious place with little time for casual social interaction, and up until now the lack of a student center has seemed to embody that mindset. Brody Learning Commons was a definite improvement, but even that is a little too focused on academics to constitute a true social hangout. A whole new building, walled off from the tension of the library, would produce a much more easygoing atmosphere where students could play music, watch movies, browse a food court or socialize apart from the academic environment.

It is high time that Hopkins students felt comfortable letting their guard down and having some fun, and creating this space will underscore the University’s commitment to that comfort. As upperclassmen, most of us on the Board might not be here to see the project to completion. Nevertheless, we hope future generations of Hopkins students will be able to enjoy a campus center befitting the University’s stature and resources.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

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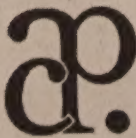
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Gatehouse  
(on the corner of N. Charles Street and Art Museum Drive)

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# OPINIONS

*With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.*

## City must address causes of Baltimore's massive homeless population

By MADDIE GOODMAN

On the first Monday of intercession, I walked into "Healthcare, Housing and Homelessness in Baltimore" with literally no idea what to expect; I had not yet even enrolled. When my friend first told me of the class, held from six to eight thirty in the evening, my adolescent mind recoiled: Who wants to be in class that late? But giving it a shot was one of the best decisions I've ever made. Little did I realize, with the wind whipping my face as we walked through the cold night air, just how many people in Baltimore that evening were going to be sleeping in these extreme temperatures.

Poverty and homelessness are not new issues in our country. Despite President Johnson's enacting a "War on Poverty" in an attempt to obliterate this ill back in the sixties, there are still too many citizens living at or below the poverty line in America. Fur-

thermore, in the U.S. more than three and a half million people experience homelessness each year; 25 percent of that number are children under 18.

Growing up in New York City, I saw homelessness on a daily basis. However, I never realized the issue was so multifaceted. Using Baltimore as a case study, "Healthcare, Housing and Homelessness in Baltimore" not only elucidated the many issues that cause homelessness but also shattered many stereotypes attached to those who are homeless such as being lazy, drug addicts or criminals. Professor Adam Schneider (who works for the nonprofit group Health Care for the Homeless) brought in people who were currently or had previously been homeless as guest speakers, and through their guidance I learned about many of the complications homelessness entails.

On any given night in Baltimore, nearly 3,000 people experience homelessness — many of whom are families with children.

Interestingly, in 2008 Baltimore City actually enacted a 10-year plan to end homelessness in the city. But this plan is threatened by the lack of housing funding in Baltimore; merely a year earlier, a report by The Abell Foundation found that the Housing Authority of Baltimore City cut over 2,400 homes housing the city's poorest, with no plans to replace the units. Why won't the city allocate the funds to fix the boarded-up, decrepit houses easily visible on the city streets? Because they want to use the money to create infrastructure and advance tourism. Harbor East is a classic example of funds that could have gone to housing.

But funding isn't the only problem. We often view homelessness as a simple, one-dimensional issue, and this ignores other factors that contribute to the astronomically high numbers of homeless individuals. For example, imprisonment for homeless individuals is a big issue; many find themselves resorting to criminal acts just to stay alive.

This is difficult to avoid, as relieving oneself or even merely sleeping on public streets can lead to arrest. Furthermore, multiple medical complications, such as diabetes and back pains, arise from months spent on the streets.

To get a housing voucher in Baltimore, an individual must fill out a "reasonable accommodation request," which requires physically going downtown and waiting on a long line to fill out a form. Moreover, not all individuals even have enough money to take the bus downtown. Those who manage to apply for a voucher are placed on an absurdly long waitlist: The average time to reach the top is nine years. All participants must provide required information on social security numbers, citizenship or immigration status in addition to detailed income and family information at the time of the interview. Such practices are very difficult for those who are homeless and may not have such formal documentation. And even after impoverished individuals obtain

a housing voucher from the city, landlords often find conniving ways to get around housing formerly homeless individuals solely out of fear that they will not be paid properly or on time.

It all amounts to a grave social justice issue that must be remedied. The process to obtain affordable housing is ironically extremely difficult for the precise population the program attempts to serve. Moreover, how can we expect rates of homelessness to decline when the city lacks adequate amounts of affordable housing? The city needs to allocate more funds towards increasing affordable housing and make it easier for individuals to apply for and achieve housing. Without some sort of change to the current housing policies in Baltimore, we will not be able to reduce the number of homeless people. But by understanding the causes of homelessness, we can create a more prosperous and happy city.

Maddie Goodman is a freshman from New York City.

## Facebook distorts social expectations and invades our real-world human interactions

By CARISSA ZUKOWSKI

We college students are often referred to as "Generation Y," underwhelmingly defined as technology-frenzied, over-parented and entitled. The last generation of young adults in our country was associated with technological advancements and praised for their innovation. But in today's world, these innovations have transformed into an invasion that distorts our expectations and understanding of social interaction.

The impact of social media on the development of young teenagers has been much discussed. In 2011, the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University found that students engaged with social media outlets were three times more likely to participate in underage drinking and twice as likely to smoke marijuana. A virtual cyber society pressures minors to be a part of a certain social scene influencing their behavior.

One problem is that Facebook creates a false microcosm for the real world where the only aspects we see of others are those that want to be seen. Facebook timelines show only the acceptable pictures: the perfect night out with beautiful friends, a flawless family photo or memorialized moments of success. This photoshopped edition of ourselves creates a false identity that escapes the bounds of the computer screen and permeates

into the real world altering our expectations of what life is like.

Social media outlets are not merely conducive to social anxiety; they have fundamentally changed the way we interact in person. Earlier this week, a friend of mine wanted to ask a girl out, so he proceeded to ask me what I thought of the idea. I replied that I had no idea who she was, which led him to show me her Facebook profile. After a few seconds flipping through her timeline on his phone, he asked, "So, what do you think of her? Should I ask her out?" Without hesitation, I replied, "Sure! She seems nice."

Looking back, what made her "seem nice" to me? I had no idea who she actually was! All I could deduce from her profile was a snapshot of her life. I could see that she wore red lipstick, has a family, goes to Hopkins and is an International Studies major. Put that all together, and it's a recipe for a nice girl, right?

There were also pictures of her at a conference for something academic, tons of pictures of her with girls (but no guys), and she obviously loved cats judging by her multiple cover photos. So now, when I finally meet her, I am just going to think about all of those things. I am going to try to fit my preconceived ideas that I have of her with who she actually is in person. Even though she will be meeting me for the first time, I will already have a pocket full of knowledge about her.

Sometimes I can be walking to class and cross paths with someone who looks vaguely familiar.

I then realize that I don't actually know them, but rather I saw them in a photo on my Facebook feed. Facebook — along with other social media outlets — does a wonderful job at connecting friends and families, but is it too efficient? Sometimes it seems to prematurely introduce everyone with overlapping social circles. Are there any strangers left for us to stumble upon?

While the answer to this question is clearly "yes," technology makes it harder to tell. It was recently reported that there is an app for Google Glass called NameTag, which can take a picture of anyone on the street, a complete stranger, and 'pull up their profiles on a compilation of internet sources. You don't have to be worried about Big Brother to feel as if such technology robs you of any say in how you present yourself to the world. I fear that other's first impression of me is already pre-defined within the coding of the internet.

What we put online is a filtered version of ourselves. Judging people based on information gleaned from websites such as Tinder and Facebook breeds social prejudice. It is our responsibility to counterbalance the inherent consequences of these technologies. Be more aware. Be aware of the way you view someone even apart from social media. Be aware of the superficial shell that prejudices our presumptions about a person. We should all do our best to keep an open mind.

Carissa is a freshman from Baltimore. She is a Staff-Writer for the Opinions section.

## Invest your life's hope, energy and enthusiasm in something eternal

By JOSHUA KAYS

The other day, I noticed a classmate (let's call her "Jane") walking by and offered her my usual enthusiastic greeting. She looked up with puffy eyes, visibly exhausted. I could tell that this was not the afternoon for joyful gusto.

"I . . . failed my midterm!" she blurted.

'Upset' does not do justice to her emotional state in that moment. Everything turned out all right in the end, but as I consoled her with a hug and a cup of chai tea, a bigger issue came to light.

Before you judge, let's be honest: We've all had our moments where we overreact to grades and the like. This particular girl was under incredible pressure from her parents (maybe you can identify with that. . .), she was dealing with some other stressful life events and she was hoping to apply to medical school. Honestly, based on what she really cared about and hoped for, her response was somewhat justified.

But herein lies the biggest question (and possibly, problem): Where do you invest your hope and why? That is, to what in your life do you devote your emotional, mental and physical energy? This is an essential question for all people at all times, and many of the intellectual greats of history have struggled to answer it. Leo Tolstoy, for example, wrestled with these kinds of questions in his Confession: "My question — that which at the age of 50 brought me to the verge of suicide — was the simplest of questions, lying in the soul of every man. . . a question without the answer to which one cannot live. It was 'What will come of what I am doing today or tomorrow? What will come of my whole life? Why should I live, why wish for anything or do anything?' It can also be expressed thus: Is there any meaning in my life that the inevitable death awaiting me does not destroy?"

But this question is not just an intellectual exercise. The answer determines how you live, what you value and, in turn, the source of your happiness. A close examination of each of our lives can point to what our hearts are set on, maybe more than we consciously know. To live a truly meaningful life, we should not only know what we currently hope for but also seek what is best to hope for.

I believe that we, as people, are prone to putting far too much of our hope and confidence in things that ultimately leave us empty, worn out and discouraged. If we are to live joyful, hope-filled, meaningful lives, we should make a conscious choice to stop trusting in the trivial — the temporary things of this life — and invest instead in what truly lasts. Let's meditate on what

we trust, the things we devote so much of our time to — academic success, money, creature comforts, friendships, romantic relationships and so forth — and see if they really meet these criteria.

For example, caring too much (like many of us do) about grades leads us to situations such as Jane's where failure causes our whole world to collapse — or worse, where success causes us to inwardly (or outwardly!) seek affirmation for our intelligence or our skills relative to our peers. This is a vicious cycle, and I see it every finals period.

Maybe you're not as school-obsessed, but what about your social life? Some of us put all our chips in this bag, trying to be the funny one, the likable one, the independent one or — dare I say — the hipster one. Maybe you are the partier — you blow off the stress of the week via the joys of Smirnoff. Maybe you've put all your hope in your fun or how people view you. But what happens if your friends betray you? What happens when you are the one hurting them? Where is your joy in those moments? What happens when you move away, and the friendships slowly wane until nothing but the memory of them remains? That would be utterly saddening, would it not?

In all of these things, be it relationships or school or work or success or the girlfriend/boyfriend, when we elevate these things beyond what they ought to be, we set ourselves up for disappointment. Isn't it worth considering that so many people go through midlife crises? Perhaps, just perhaps, it took those people 40 years of life to realize they have hoped for the wrong things — the very same things we invest in now.

Some people say that the solution is to simply not put all your hope or trust in one thing but to spread it out between every corner of your life — a renaissance man approach, if you will. But personally, I think that strategy results in an utterly mediocre enjoyment of life. To implement it you must constantly check yourself to ensure you don't trust each object or thing or person too much, and that guardedness leaves you cold, empty and alone. Any joy that comes from your life comes in small measures (the same measure as your trust). Honestly, I don't think we are wired for that kind of thinking and acting. We as people desire closeness, affection and love. We want to devote ourselves to something, and it's okay to do so — we just have to pick the right things.

And so I ask you again: what do you put your hope in? Will it last the test of time? Or will it ultimately leave you worn out, joyless and empty? Here's hoping you find a hope that lasts eternally.

Joshua is a senior majoring in Biomedical Engineering.

## Hopkins should buy The Baltimore Sun

By NATHAN BICK

Last year two major American newspapers were sold — the *Boston Globe* and the *Washington Post*. Each sale was significant for the local Baltimore area as there are rumors that *The Baltimore Sun* may follow suit. Studying these examples, I would like to propose that Hopkins purchase *The Baltimore Sun*.

That may sound crazy, but bear with me. *The Boston Globe* was purchased by John Henry, the billionaire owner of the Boston Red Sox and Liverpool Football Club. Later in the year, the *Washington Post* announced its sale to billionaire founder and CEO of Amazon, Jeff Bezos. Neither buyer was an obvious suitor; at first glance successful sports moguls and online retail giants don't seem like perfect fits for a newspaper. But each buyer had his reasons. In light of these odd pairings, why would a university buying a newspaper be so strange?

*The Baltimore Sun* is owned by the Tribune Company of Chicago, which has recently gone through bankruptcy and split off its newspaper publishing ventures. Rumors abound that the Tribune wishes to sell these papers, including the local *Balti-*

*more Sun*.

Comparing *The Baltimore Sun* to the two recent sales reveals that its price could be very inviting. *The Post's* daily circulation is roughly 500,000 while the *Globe's* is approximately 250,000, but *The Sun's* daily circulation is much less than 200,000. Bezos bought the *Post* for \$250 million, while the *Globe* was bought for \$70 million. Considering the circulation data as well as intangible value (such as importance of the city, city population, the paper's history and prestige and brand value) *The Baltimore Sun* should be priced far lower than the *Boston Globe*, perhaps up to half as much. Remember also that this price could be shouldered with other investors.

The Hopkins community could benefit by welcoming the staff of *The Baltimore Sun* as part of the overall organization of the university, perhaps as part of the President's Ten by Twenty plan. Students might enjoy a large array of journalistic writing courses in conjunction with professional writers, computer science courses with the *Sun's* website developers or management and business classes with the *Sun's* website developers or management and business classes with relevant *Sun* businessmen. Either in addition to or instead of these courses, internship opportunities in the same disciplines might

greatly enrich students' job-related preparation both during the semesters and over breaks. Students of on-campus news organizations could work with professionals in the industry. Eventually the university could establish a journalism major to expand the diversity of the student body and compete with highly regarded programs at universities around the nation.

This purchase would also further tie the university with its city. Keeping the *Sun* local (and allowing for its improvement and eventual profit) would allow the university to make a positive impact on the Baltimore community.

Concerns about bias introduced by university ownership would be unfounded; indeed, all news organizations are criticized as biased and corporate. Most likely, a scholarly style with a corporate influence would yield a better product than the status quo, although the operation of the two organization should be largely separate. Concerns about over-expanded university influence in the area could be assuaged by a joint ownership group, as previously described.

I doubt this course will be followed, but I do hope it sparks discussions and ideas.

Nathan is an economics major from Washington, DC.



# PHOTO ESSAY

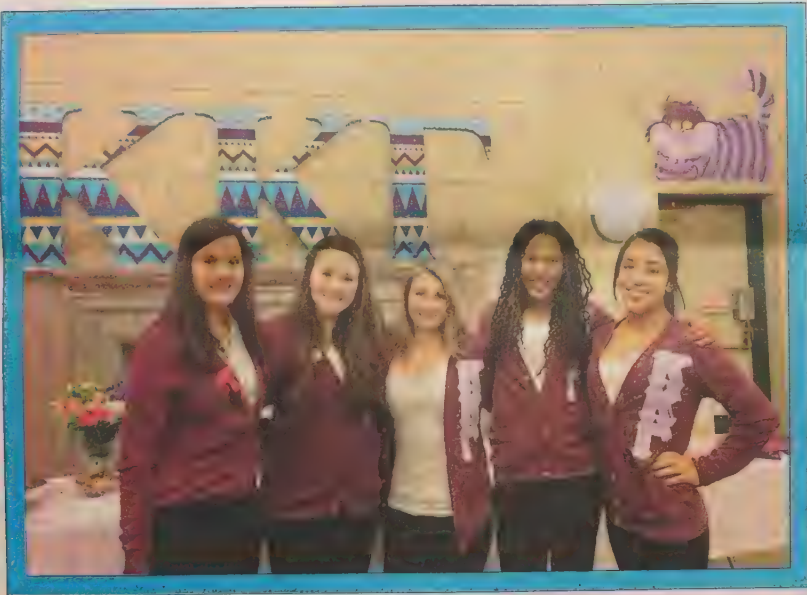
## Sorority Recruitment 2014



**Pi Beta Phi**



**Kappa Alpha Theta**



**Kappa Kappa  
Gamma**



**Phi Mu**



**Alpha Phi**



# THE B SECTION

News-Letter

Your Weekend • Arts & Entertainment • Cartoons, Etc. • Science & Technology • Sports

FEBRUARY 6, 2014



## Arts & Entertainment

Barnstormers' *Proof* — B3

Review of Disney's *Frozen* — B3

*The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* — B4



## Science & Technology

Peanut allergies may be reversible — B7

Baby penguins in danger — B9

The social value of campfires — B9



## Sports

Men's swimming beats MW — B10

Athlete of the week: Andrew Carey — B11

Men's basketball takes on Haverford — B12



# YOUR WEEKEND FEB. 6-9

## Cult film so terrible, it's good

By KEVIN WELLS  
Your Weekend Columnist

For those of you who don't know, *The Room* is essentially a cult film proclaimed to be one of the worst movies ever created. And some of you may disagree with me, but it's one of those "so-bad-it's-good" movies, especially if you watch it with the right crowd.

Anyway, last Sunday (the day before classes began) I went with two friends to D.C. to view the film with guest appearances by Tommy Wiseau (the writer, director, producer and main character) and Greg Sestero (the co-star). Everybody in attendance received a free poster, a handshake with the vampiric Tommy Wiseau (who is in his late 50s, although he doesn't look older than 40) and Sestero, a question-and-answer session and a viewing of the movie. In fact, it was quite possibly the greatest \$20 I've ever spent as stupid as it may sound.

Unfortunately, the closest they're coming to Baltimore again in 2014 are New York and Phila-

delphia; although if travel isn't too hectic or if you're in the areas I highly recommend you to go.

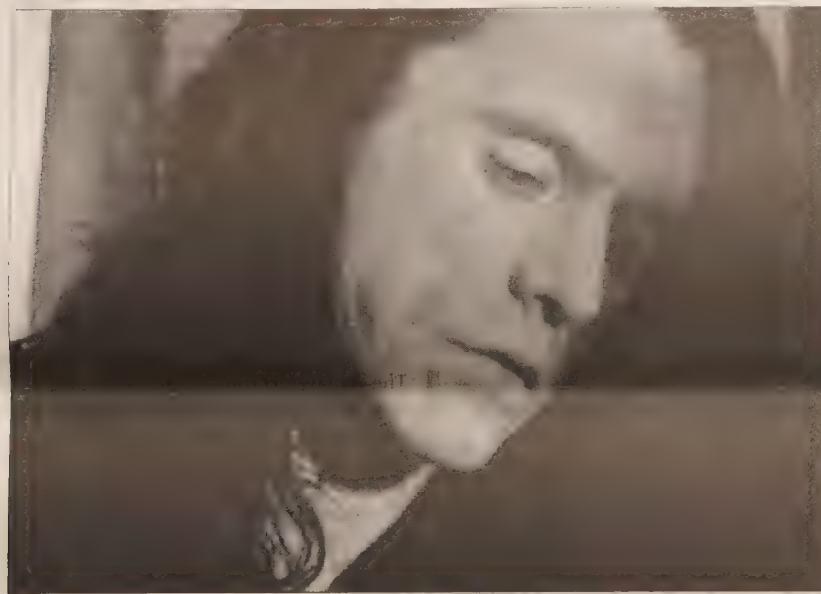
I have a few friends from high school with whom I never really talked until we realized we had a mutual appreciation of *The Room*. The movie has a lot of heart and is crammed with quotable lines, from "You are tearing me apart, Lisa" to "Get out, get out, get out of my life."

The greatest part of the movie isn't the writing, however. Tommy Wiseau's French/Eastern European accent consistently walks a fine line between understandable and Wookie. The flower shop scene, where Tommy purchases flowers for his fiancée, strikes up a conversation with the show's owner and proclaims his love for the owner's dog — all within about 15 seconds — is the greatest. It's astounding that their timing could be so far off-point, but that's where the movie gains its heart; it's just so laughably bad.

The experience was, to be honest, transcendent. It was a theater full of a

bunch of other *The Room* fans, to the point where everything said became an inside joke (I can see why it gets the title "cult film"). But in all seriousness there was greatness in the community of other fans. People came garbed in wigs and hats to represent characters in the film. The movie has a picture frame with a picture of a spoon (every time it appears on camera the audience throws spoons at the screen).

In fact, there's an entire list of how to watch *The Room* in a theater setting. It's gained that much of a following and is that entertaining to watch. All in all my experience was phenomenal, and it was a much better night than I expected it to be. I'd advise you to watch *The Room* if given the chance, but it's significantly better watching it with a group of friends. If anything, *CineMasins* has a great review of *The Room*, while *Rifftrax* provides a hilarious commentary. It may sound like a waste of time, but once you're hooked you'll slowly realize that this film has got a lot of heart.



COURTESY OF JSEATTLE VIA FLICKR

Writer, director, producer and main character of the film, Tommy Wiseau talks to fans at a convention.



PLATESBALTIMORE.COM

Located in the Merritt Athletic Club, Plates Restaurant in Mount Vernon has a rustic, relaxed atmosphere.

## New rustic Baltimore eatery impresses

By LIZZIE KIM  
Your Weekend Columnist

It's cold. This statement of the obvious is what has been starting most of my conversations lately. I left my favorite winter coat at home, and the warmest jacket I have here in my dorm makes me look like a puffball so I refuse to wear it in public. The only thing that I think about when I walk to my classes is how cold it is, and all I want to do is to go back to my room, crank my thermostat all the way up, go on my bed, curl up into a ball with a bag of chips and watch Netflix.

Last weekend my friend confiscated my laptop and bag of Cheetos, dragged me out of bed and demanded that we get off campus and go out for dinner. I whined that it was cold, and I didn't want to stand outside and wait for buses for food from a restaurant that I've probably tried before. He said that we only had to take one bus and promised me that this restaurant was new and had good reviews on Yelp.

After a 15-minute JHMI

ride we got off at the Peabody stop. I've always just gone to the Inner Harbor so I had forgotten how fast and easy it was to get to Penn Station. A short, two block walk later we got to the Merritt Athletic Club. I turned to my friend, confused. He turned to me and looked down at the GPS on his phone and said, "I swear, I didn't take you down here to work out!"

After a couple minutes of circling the block we figured out that the restaurant was inside the gym. After entering the front entrance of the gym we saw the main entrance for the restaurant with the word "Plates" written in large letters.

I felt the rustic industrial theme of the restaurant as soon as I walked in. The shelves against the walls had large mason jars full of whole nuts, the tables had metal chairs, stools by the bar and the menu was written on the chalkboard in the back.

The menu was a mix of Mexican, American and Greek cuisine — all made in-house — using ingredients from Baltimore's

Farmers Market. We decided to order the fried calamari as an appetizer, chicken florentine, crab cakes and chicken tacos. We wanted to get a taste of all the cuisines the restaurant offered, and we were very impressed.

The calamari had a certain spicy kick to it that made it stand out from the various fried calamari we had tried at other restaurants. All the entrees were very moist and seasoned perfectly.

We were also very pleased with the fast and friendly service. Our server told us that Plates has only been open for about a year so the restaurant is still fairly unknown to many people in the area. It was totally worth putting off Netflix and munching on Cheetos. Another plus was that we got back to the Homewood campus in less than 15 minutes without having the wait in the cold.

Definitely recommend this place to everyone that is in the mood for great service, convenient location and awesome food. I guarantee that you will clear your Plates!

## Noteworthy Events



VOX EFX VIA FLICKR

High-end cars, such as the one pictured above, will be featured at the show.

### 2014 Motor Trend International Auto Show

12 p.m. — 10 p.m.  
All Weekend  
Baltimore Convention Center

The annual auto show is back showcasing new models of cars, trucks and SUV's. Featured cars include high-end brands like Ferrari, Maserati, Aston Martin, Lotus, Bentley and Mercedes-Benz. Head down to the Baltimore Convention this weekend to see your dream car in person. Weekend opening times vary; on Friday, Saturday and Sunday the convention will open at 10 a.m. The show will end at 7 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$12 for adults (13 and over), \$5 for children (7-12) and free for children six years and under.

### Disney On Ice Celebrates 100 Years of Magic

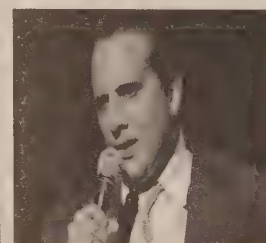
Varying Show Times  
All Weekend  
Baltimore Arena

Join all your favorite Disney characters on the rink as they celebrate 100 years of the amazing production that is *Disney On Ice*. Performing characters will include Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Jiminy Cricket, Pinocchio and many more! Tickets range from \$15-\$60 and are available for purchase online. There are two shows on Saturday, one at 10:30 a.m. and the other at 7:30 p.m. On Friday, showtimes are at 2:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. There will only be one show on Sunday at 4 p.m.



HARSHLIGHT VIA FLICKR

Aladdin and the Genie perform at a 100-year celebration in California.



RJMEDIA.COM

Comedian Nick DiPaolo performs (left); The Buttered Niblets (right).



BUTTERED NIBLETS VIA FACEBOOK



PEABODYJHU.EDU

Peabody Concert Orchestra (left); Timonium Motorcycle Show (right).



CYCLESHOW.NET

## Calendar

- 2/6 Nick DiPaolo (Magooby's Joke House)
- 2/7 The Buttered Niblets: Improvisation Comedy (Arellano Theater)
- Wine and Chocolate (Tightfisted Fashion on N. Charles Street)
- Peabody Concert Orchestra (Friedberg Hall, Peabody)
- Timonium Motorcycle Show (Maryland State Fairgrounds)
- 2/8 Throat Culture's 24 Hour Show: Sketch Comedy (Arellano Theater)
- 2/9 War Horse (Hippodrome Theater)



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Disney's Frozen turns classic plot upside down

Let's talk about Disney and its musicals. It's no secret that Disney has a long history with the animated musical. In fact, the medium itself owed the greater part of its existence to Walt Disney and his work. It was Disney's 1937 animated adaptation of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* that put the animated musical on the map, acting as a catalyst for the addition of animated features to the Academy Awards. Since then, masterpieces such as *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Lion King* have kept the animated musical alive and well.

That said, Disney's animated musicals have always faced issues. Despite their quality, they are frequently criticized for condescendingly simplified plots, insulting historical inaccuracies and weak female leads. Good and evil are always clearly defined, the princess always finds her prince, love conquers all and all of the other sickeningly sweet clichés typical of such stories.

Then comes *Frozen* turning all of that on its head. And it really is delightful to watch.

In arguably the most self-aware musical they have ever created, the Disney company adapts *Frozen* from the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale of *The*

*Snow Queen*. Set in the fictional city of Arendelle in what appears to be Monarchical Russia, Elsa, the first princess of the region, is born with the ability to create and manipulate ice and snow but is unable to control her power fully. Following an accident where she nearly kills her sister Anna, Elsa's father sequesters Elsa and encourages her to suppress her powers, and in doing so alienates his daughters from the world and each other.

Fast forward many years, and Elsa is set to inherit the throne following her parents' death. Anna, meanwhile, is hopelessly taken by a prince whom she insists on marrying after only just meeting him.

After an argument at Elsa's inauguration regarding Anna's plans, Elsa inadvertently reveals her powers and flees the city, building an icy palace atop a mountain and plunging the kingdom into an unending winter.

Anna, alongside a mountaineer named Kristoff, sets out to make amends with Elsa and bring her back home.

A great deal of the film's charm is how cleverly it subverts most of Disney's most infamous stereotypes. The film makes it a point to deliberately poke fun at itself in what can only be described as a method to "modernize" the Disney musical without stripping it of its archaic

SEE *FROZEN*, PAGE B5

## Complex characters shine in *Proof* play

By CHRISTINE LEE  
For The News-Letter

Genetics prove that children get a mix of their parent's genes: perhaps the thick, caterpillar-like eyebrows from the father, the melodic singing voice from the mother, all combined to make another unique individual. There is not an option of picking and combing through the various traits of our parents to make who we are. We are born with them, the good the bad and, sometimes, the terrible. That is the problem that Catharine struggles with in David Auburn's play, *Proof*.

The play centers around Catharine, the daughter of Robert, who is a mathematical genius and former professor at the University of Chicago. Robert is already dead when the show starts, having passed away recently due to a mental illness causing him to lose all intellectual ability.

Catharine, who greatly resembles her father, fears she will end up exactly like him: dead in her early fifties, unable to string together a coherent sentence.



COURTESY OF THE JHU BARNSTORMERS

Richard Kidney and Lin Le starred side by side in the Barnstormers's recent student production, *Proof*.

She had dropped out of college her sophomore year to take care of her father, who was occasionally visited by his protegee, Hal. Catharine, who eventually gets into a relationship with Hal, shows him a notebook containing a revolutionary mathematical proof.

Although she claims to

have written it while nursing her father, the uncanny similarities the notebook has to her father's work causes no one to believe her. Struggling with mental illness, a pushy older sister and a boyfriend who will not trust her, Catharine must provide the proof that the proof is indeed hers.

*Proof*, a Barnstormers production directed by Daniel Weissglass, was shown at the Arellano Theater on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1. The play flowed together nicely, comprised of a strong cast and a back-

barbs she exchanges with the rest of the cast and especially during Catharine's most distressing moments: Le with her tear rimmed eyes asking Hal if he believed she had written the notebook or when she pleaded with her father to go back inside the house.

Catharine's older sister, Claire, is played by Victoria Schroeder, who is also a senior. Schroeder captures Claire perfectly in the lilt of her voice, mannerisms and gestures, helping Claire's character of overbearing and prim come across.

Schroeder was the strongest actress as it was difficult to differentiate between the actress and the character. However, at the same time, her role fits into a certain stereotype and is certainly less emotionally complex than Catharine.

Robert is played by Richard Kidney Schroeder, a junior, who, despite his young age, manages to capture the spirit of a middle-aged man surprisingly well. In acute attention to detail, even his facial hair seemed a mix of salt and pepper on stage.

Although Richard comes on stage the least, his scenes are poignant, meaningful exchanges shared with his daughter. Although Hal's performance (Utkarsh Rajawat) was not the strongest, his romantic scenes with Catharine were adorable. The way he would try to peer into Le's eyes and move closer to her made the feelings seem more authentic and not just staged. Utkarsh plays the romantic, geeky Hal the best. Angry, confused, upset Hal had been roughly executed and not wholly convincing at times.

*Proof* was a play that was nicely put together from the cast to the crew. It brought laughter, it (almost) brought tears and well worth the small admission price and two hour running time.



COURTESY OF THE JHU BARNSTORMERS

The Hopkins community crowded into the Arellano Theater to watch their peers perform.

## Modern Family keeps pulling at heartstrings

I almost died over Intersession, which is to say that I felt as though I were going to die over Intersession.

I was traveling back to Baltimore from London. As the plane flew against 100-mile-an-hour winds, shaking as though it were made of paper and causing drinks to spill onto the passengers (including myself), I managed to find solace in only one thing: watching episodes of *Modern Family*.

It may seem like a strange way to deal with the problem, but I've always loved *Modern Family*. When the plane began jolting back and forth, I chose to watch *Modern Family* out of all the other TV shows available on the flight, knowing that it would add a bit of humor to an otherwise traumatizing situation.

As I watched, I realized just how funny, witty and sentimental the show is — enough to distract me from thinking that

at any moment I was going to fall out of the sky and plummet into the Atlantic Ocean.

The creators of the show, Steven Levitan and Christopher Lloyd, who

doing so. The witty one-liners flow seamlessly into the dialogue so much that at times, it takes the viewer a second to realize what has just been said.

I think Ty Burrell's char-

only get one chance at a first impression. I suggest Julia Child because it's easy to do," and "When life gives you lemons, make lemons. Life will be all like 'What?!'" Needless

to say, Phil is one of a kind, and Ty Burrell full-heartedly embodies the character without holding back.

Gloria (Sofia Vergara) and Cameron (Eric Stonestreet) also play a significant role in bringing humor to each episode with their big personalities, blunt honesty and quirky talents

(Cam likes to dress up as Fozzie the Clown, and Gloria knows a lot about smuggling contraband).

But there's more to *Modern Family* than just the comedy. What makes this show stand out among others is its unfailing ability to pull at viewers' heartstrings with each episode.

At its surface, *Modern Family* is just a show about three families who are all related and how they deal with various challenges and life events. However, at its core, the show is about

SEE *MODERN FAMILY*, PAGE B4



ROCKANDROLL89 VIA FANPOP

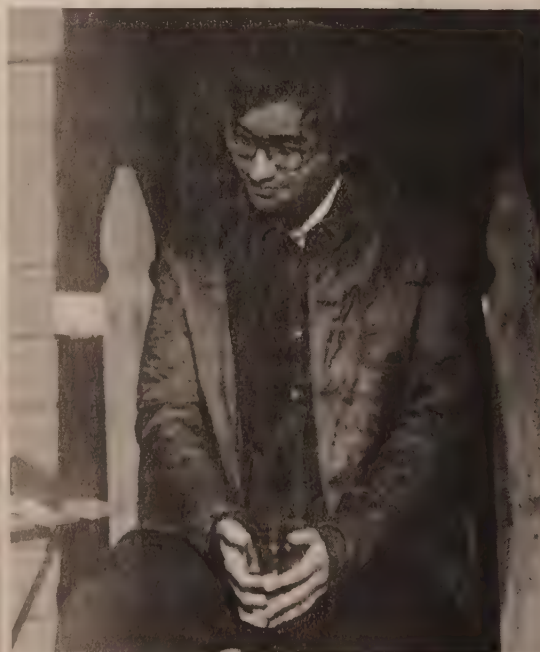
With strong acting and stellar writing, *Modern Family* continues to be a cable TV show staples for all ages.

also help write each episode, are objectively brilliant. There's no way a person could argue otherwise. The dialogue they write is funny but not in a way that's too over-the-top or ridiculous. Rather, the humor fits the nature of the show. It's quick and seemingly accidental as the characters who make the jokes often don't even know they're

acter, Phil Dunphy, is the funniest character on the show. Phil is positive, confident and — to be honest — a bit weird. He's constantly making puns and often insulting himself in the process. He's bought an alpaca under stress, tight-rope walked across his front yard and invented Express Christmas (TM).

One of Phil's most memorable moments on the show is when he compiles a book of his best pieces of advice entitled Phil's-osophy. The book includes such helpful tips as "You

Nicolette  
Hatzidimitriou  
Columnist



COURTESY OF THE JHU BARNSTORMERS

The close-knit cast succeeded in delivering an entertaining show.



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Tracy Letts explores secrecy and dysfunction

By AAFIA SYED  
For The News-Letter

*August: Osage County*, currently playing at The Charles Theater, starts with all the the family tension and suspense of *The Glass Menagerie* and ends with all the subtlety and originality of a *Jerry Springer* episode.

This is partly because the movie is adapted from a Pulitzer-Prize winning play (as was the sub-par adaptation of *The Glass Menagerie*) by playwright Tracy Letts. Letts was inspired by the dysfunctional-family plays of Tennessee Williams and Eugene O'Neill.

Dysfunctional family indeed.

*August* follows three days, three sisters and three generations of the Weston family that have come to mourn the death of the beloved family patriarch. Unfortunately, the dead man seems to be the only person the family members have much love for.

The film digs into themes of secrets and of acceptance and then continues digging once it has long since already reached the bottom of the bedrock. If a character is seen on screen from the Weston family, she will have a secret, and it will less than subtly be revealed all over the dinner table. Nothing in this movie is left unsaid, and everyone has something to say to everyone. Even the moments of humor (which do a good job of leaving audiences laughing while feeling guilty and cruel at the same time) are born out of anger and resentment. It is as if these family members have not

had one single conversation with each other in decades. However, during this one gathering, everyone simultaneously decides to say everything. Everywhere throughout the movie, secrets and lies can be inserted, organically or inorganically.

Ultimately, each character, as resentful as they are to one another, desperately seeks approval and acceptance; each character faces the decision to settle (including for child predators, incestuous relationships and loveless relationships) or to run away.

While the acting is on a constant high from nearly all members of an all-star cast (Julia Roberts and Meryl Streep give one of their best performances), the formulaic and limited direction and storyboarding may cause one to check out emotionally multiple times during the film.

There is a scene where Ivy (Julianne Nicholson) drives desperately in any direction that leads far away from the dysfunctional home down a dirt road. A cloud of dust rises into the air into a perfect size ball that covers the car from view, and then she is gone. Symbolically, it looks like the most cliché shot in movie history; technically it looks like the shot was edited in Micro-soft Paint.

What the movie lacks in originality, it is relentless in its exploration of a dysfunctional family that may not live up to similar film adaptations such as *The Death of a Salesman* or *A Streetcar named Desire*. Nevertheless, it is still worth a view for the high level and quality of energy and acting.

## Mitty inspires travel and personal growth

By AUBREY ALMANZA  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

In March of 1939, The *New Yorker* published James Thurber's short story *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, in which Thurber describes a middling protagonist's ordinary day in Waterbury, Conn. Yet, while going through the mundane motions, Walter preoccupies his mind with five heroic fantasies that quench his thirst for a spectacular existence.

Though Mitty never physically strays from his usual grocery store, parlor or car, he mentally transports himself to thrilling locations like an operating room, Naval hydroplane and heated courtroom. Walter's imagined "secret life" allows him to escape his dull reality.

In addition to multiple reproductions in literary anthologies and a 1947 feature film, the daydreaming protagonist maintains relevance with Ben Stiller's 2013 adaptation.

Stiller's modern interpretation immensely deviates from Thurber's original masterpiece, however. Aside from Walter's self-aggrandizing daydreams that function as his escape, little plot remains unchanged.

Instead, the recent Red Hour Films production portrays a single, middle-aged Walter Mitty working as a negative assets manager in the photo department of New York-based *Life* magazine. Despite living in a bustling city and working intimately with a renowned environmental photographer, Walter feels commonplace. He operates behind the scenes of *Life*, is most intimate with his mother and cannot name an experience "noteworthy or mentionable."



COURTESY OF DREWJOANA VIA FANPOP  
Ben Stiller embarks on a journey of self discovery as Walter Mitty.

Only in his self-centered fantasies is Mitty a man of greatness. Walter envisions himself rescuing a small dog from an exploding building, "testing the limits of the human spirit" as an arctic mountain climber, skateboarding throughout the city, fighting his ridiculing boss and more. Mitty's subconscious desire to live extraordinarily manifests itself in his lifelong habit of "zoning out" but has little affect on his daily routine.

It's not until he loses *Life*'s final cover by Sean O'Connell (played by Sean Penn) that Mitty decides to act. With the help of his coworker and love interest Cheryl Melhoff (Kristen Wig), Walter finally breaks free of his comfort zone. Walter determines to track down O'Connell using the photographer's reel of negative images as helpful clues.

Throughout the manhunt, Mitty discovers that within him lied dormant the courage he so often

imagined. Walter jumps out of a moving helicopter, punches a shark, longboards down a mountainous Greenland road, survives a volcanic eruption and solves the mystery. Upon finding O'Connell in the Himalayan mountains, Walter realizes that the "quintessence of life" was not lost, but with him all along.

*The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* appeals to all audiences because of its multi-genre qualifications as a romance, comedy, action and feel-good film wrapped into one. Unfortunately, although the film's walkaway resonates with viewers, much of the movie is too outlandish to take seriously. The Benjamin Button fantasy and superhero skate battle are particularly outrageous. Despite the comedic intention behind them, both scenes are simply overdone.

The film's dialogue is nothing special, but two standout lines ingrain

themselves in a viewer's memory. The motto of *Life* magazine is repeated aloud, written on countless walls and stamped onto Mitty's wallet. It reads: "To see the world, things dangerous to come to, to see behind walls, draw closer, to find each other and to feel. That is the purpose of life." This quotation accurately summarizes the film's inspirational intent, and is accordingly hammered home.

Secondly, at the climax of the film, Sean explains that "beautiful things don't ask for attention." The man of immeasurable, worldly experience enlightens Walter (and audiences), teaching that things worthy of appreciation take time and effort to find.

Veteran actor Ben Stiller impeccably portrays personal growth and positive transformation. From a hunched, timid, buttoned-up laughing-stock to a rugged and adventurous independent, viewers watch Mitty find himself by taking risks. By the end of the film there is a physical metamorphosis to match his recent growth.

The cinematic landscapes are undoubtedly the film's strong point. Various shots of Greenland, Iceland, New York and the Himalayas are enough to increase anyone's appetite for travel. From icy mountains to rough waters and sloping green hills, *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* compels viewers to explore their human potential by travelling the world.

Despite receiving average to low reviews, Ben Stiller's *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* is worth watching and is sure to provide multiple angles of inspiration.



COURTESY OF MACGUFFIN VIA CLOTURECLUB.COM  
Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts give standout performances in *August*.

## Familial love struggles highlighted in series

*MODERN FAMILY*, FROM B3 love. Although the family members argue and frequently find themselves in difficult situations (for example, when Phil and Claire's daughter gets kicked out of college, or when Mitch and Cam have trouble adopting another child), they always come together in the end to support one another, knowing that despite everything that happens, family is most important.

While watching *Modern Family* on my flight, I was completely unperturbed by the violent bumping and bouncing of the plane and my certain tragic death. Instead, I was laughing at the tre-

mendously funny characters and tearing up at their heartfelt moments of reconciliation (all of which probably made the man sitting next to me a bit uncomfortable).

When I finally landed, I couldn't wait to see my own family and the friends that I've come to consider family. Through its comedy and heartfelt moments, *Modern Family* continuously reminds me that regardless of all the weird or even annoying things my own family may do, and despite the disagreements we may have, I know they'll always be there for me at the end of the day (or at the end of a treacherous flight).

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# Animated musical incorporates fresh themes

**FROZEN, FROM B3**  
Nowhere is this more apparent than in the construction of the film's characters, which are among the most endearing Disney has produced. Elsa and Anna, voiced by Idina Menzel and Kristen Bell, respectively, capture most of the screen time in the film and rightfully so. They work as a very clever juxtaposition of the old Disney versus the new Disney.

Anna encapsulates many of Disney's old, naive stereotypes. She falls in love with the first man she meets; she rushes into marriage, with a "love conquers all" mentality; she runs through open fields singing about how she wants more in life, despite being royalty. She reflects Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Ariel and Jasmine of prior Disney films.

Elsa, meanwhile, deals with far darker problems: isolation, alienation and a fear of herself that is so deep that she deliberately keeps people away for fear of killing them. She is cynical and jaded, not taken with the, dare we say, fairy tale naivety of her

sister. Juxtaposing these two characters strikes a balance between the two extremes, allowing Disney to attack its own tropes while still holding true to them. Furthermore, the film is very focused — it recognizes that the charm of the film lies in the interplay between the sisters and keeps the focus on them, keeping the conflict both very grand and very personal, increasing the tension in every scene.

Visually, the film is stunning. The CGI work in the film is fluid, well designed and very impressive throughout. My only criticisms would be a personal preference for the older style of hand drawn animation and in the character designs. Both criticisms play into each other to an extent. I feel as though the movie may have lent itself better to being hand drawn, because such a form typically lends itself better to variations in style.

No matter how good the animation is (and it is fantastic), most CGI cartoons have a tendency to be stylistically identical. Compare Elsa's design to



COURTESY OF PRINCESSFAIRY VIA FANPOP  
*Frozen* is hailed as Disney's best work produced in recent years.

Rapunzel's from *Tangled*. While they are clearly different characters, both look like plastic dolls produced from the same Disney toy line; there's not enough stylistic variation.

The environments, however, are wonderfully rendered. Witnessing the cinematic rise of the Ice Palace is worth the price of admission alone.

However, one cannot have an animated musical adventure without music. And the soundtrack of *Frozen* is easily the best Disney has produced in years. Abandoning the more pop-oriented soundtracks of many of Disney's more recent

films, the songs return to the grand masterpieces typical of Disney classics. "Let it Go," sung by Elsa during the building of her palace, is nominated for numerous awards, and rightfully so, although personally, this reviewer preferred a reprisal of "For the First Time in Forever," where Elsa and Anna have a sort of musical duel, perfectly highlighting the depth of both the love and conflict between the two.

Overall, *Frozen* is a splendid revitalization of the Disney musical. It puts fresh spins on familiar concepts, has an excellent cast of characters and a soundtrack that keeps the film alive and beautiful if at all possible, give it a watch; it will be time well spent.

Overall rating: 4.5/5



COURTESY OF LIGHTNINGRED VIA FANPOP  
A hypnotizing soundtrack and cinematic animation make *Frozen* stand out as a musical.

## Inside Llewyn Davis drifts away from viewer acclaim

By **ALLI GRECO**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

*Inside Llewyn Davis* is a drifting film in all meanings of the word. Just as the plot orbits around the existence of starving artist Llewyn Davis, its overall pace merely plods along. It never appears to go anywhere nor follow the traditional trajectory of a story.

From the outside looking in, the film promises to be enticing. It is a tale of a humble musician, Llewyn Davis (Oscar Isaac), who is struggling to make something of himself and launch his career in 1960s Greenwich Village in New York City.

Penniless and homeless, Llewyn makes his way around all of the local clubs with various nightly gigs. He also finds himself sleeping on the couches of several casual acquaintances and friends, most notably, the

loyal Jim (Justin Timberlake) and feisty and hostile Jean (Carey Mulligan) Berkey.

Given Llewyn's tension with his married friends and difficulties with launching his folk music career, audiences might expect the story to pick up its tempo and actually tell the story, or rather, maturation of the sometimes absent-minded and directionless Llewyn. However, the film fails to leave an impact by its conclusion.

Despite the beautiful and emotional music produced by Academy Award winner T Bone Burnett, *Inside Llewyn Davis* starts to lose its initial promise and sparkle about 30 minutes in, a great disappointment to audiences.

First, Llewyn befriends a stray cat, which, symbolically, bears a striking resemblance to him as a wandering musician. This bond would appear to develop and the two would

appear to have a lifelong camaraderie, but Llewyn eventually loses the cat and arbitrarily never mentions it again.

After meeting the cat, Llewyn then has to go with Jean to a gynecologist's office to pay for her abortion (It is suspected that Llewyn fathered her unborn child without Jim's knowledge). After Jean has her procedure, perhaps a sub-plot would emerge outlining the romantic woes of Llewyn and his growing tension with Jean. That never happens, as Jean is rarely mentioned for the remainder of the film.

In all likelihood, the most interesting part of *Inside Llewyn Davis* is when Llewyn hitchhikes with a beat poet named Johnny Five (Garrett Hedlund) and obnoxious jazz musician and heroin addict Roland Turner (John Goodman). It is unclear where they are all going at first, but it becomes apparent

that they are making their way to Chicago. Lost souls themselves, they and Llewyn would presumably turn out to be good friends. However, Turner overdoses on heroin in a public bathroom, and Johnny gets arrested for speeding leaving Llewyn, once again, on his own to find his own way to Chicago where he and his proposed act are eventually rejected by a renowned nightclub owner.

Throughout this bizarre and disconnected string of events, this is the point where the film "ends," even though it does go on for some time after that. Some could argue that the wandering nature of the film and the lack of a satisfying ending reflect the life and difficulties faced by musicians like Llewyn in the 1960s.

This argument is appreciated, and the film could be interpreted as authentic if viewed from this perspective. By the conclusion, however, there is no real sense that the "story" has followed any trace of a coherent path. It started off drifting and ended the same way with not much in between.

The highlights of *Inside Llewyn Davis* are the acting by Mulligan and Timberlake and the simple folk music. Mulligan and Timberlake both bring the only glimmer of dramatic tension, interest and humor to an otherwise bleak tale. Meanwhile, the expertly produced and written music provides a peaceful backdrop and a welcome respite to the film's duller moments.

Overall, despite the hype that surrounds *Inside Llewyn Davis*, it fails to hit the right chord with audiences.



CIRCLCINEMA.COM  
Mulligan and Timberlake provide moments of comedic relief and drama in an otherwise dull film.

## NEW VIBRATIONS

ARTIST  
**Michael Milosh**  
ALBUM  
*Jetlag*  
LABEL  
Plug Research  
RELEASED  
Nov. 26, 2013

Michael Milosh, known as "Milosh," and member of the two-man musical group Rhye, released his fourth solo album, *Jetlag*, this past November. The Canadian musician is known for his lush, soothing voice and use of soft synthesizers to create a sound distinctly laid-back and sensual.

Fans of bands like Beach House or James Blake should consider listening to his music. Compared to some of the more dance oriented electronic music being released, Milosh's sound envelops listeners, slipping them into a sensory experience that relaxes and puts their mind at ease.

His music initiates a time to reflect and imagine, a time when one's innermost thoughts come to the surface. Milosh's cooing voice, paired with soft beats, expresses the ethereal quality of time and daily sensations. It seems that previous experience with jazz and classical music, especially with the cello, may be what has influenced Milosh to create a distinctive sound that reaches deeper into the physical experience of music, a sound that is distinctive in the genre of electronic music.

While Milosh's previous albums describe more impulsive and transient aspects of love and relationships, with lyrics like "Just a woman I loved/You're just a woman I lived with/I wish that lie was true..." (from *Leaving Samui*, album iii), a few songs on the album, *Jetlag*, hint at a more serious relationship.

This is fitting as Milosh's wife of nearly two years, actress Alexa Nicolas, worked with him on the album. He himself describes the album as "an expression of my deep love for my wife, my happiness and excitement for a new place in my life, my sadness or fear of stepping out of my old life..."

*Jetlag* is about dancing between two worlds simultaneously, learning about myself through the process and ultimately making a choice to be with someone, to fully commit to that life even though it's on the other side of

the world." Lyrics like "a quiet calm is creeping in" and "can we all just slow down" ("Slow Down" on the *Jetlag* album) suggest that Milosh has in fact begun a new phase of his life and is discovering the intricacies of a more lasting relationship as well as new sides to himself. This is not to say however that the album pretends life is now straightforward. The song, "Do You Want What I Need" includes a diverse combination of instrumentals and background music, including samples of Alexa Nicolas' voice. The individual sounds are not completely congruous yet when blended together, the result is a voluptuous whole.

The slight dissonances reveal the genuinely conflicting nature of emotions. The auditory combinations paired with the lyrics of the song "need you to be able to break my heart, be able to break me apart..." and "I want you to get lost in my mouth forever" (said by Alexa Nicolas) furthers a sense of sexual tension. The song is honest and tries to explore and arouse intimate and complex feelings.

Time is also an integral component of the album. Not only do the song lyrics reflect its importance but so do the dreamy, lingering instrumentals and Milosh's mesmerizing voice. In the song "This Time," Milosh sings "this time that is our time, this time around" and "I am in my best time, best time," which suggest that he has a newfound appreciation of the present. The lyrics are repetitive and rather simplistic with the vocals blending into the instrumentals. This creates a sense of eternity which captures the listener.

The sound evolves gracefully like stream of consciousness writing style and leads the listeners to think and become conscious of their own innermost thoughts and imaginings. Just like the title *Jetlag* suggests, there is a certain fatigue that comes across when listening to the album. Milosh's sound slows time and a certain mysticism seems to overtake even the most somber of environments. After listening to a few songs on the album, the listener coalesces with their surroundings and with the sounds of the music. The album allows us to relax and drift wherever our subconscious may take us, exploring the perfections and imperfections of our experiences.

— Chaconne Martin-Berkowicz



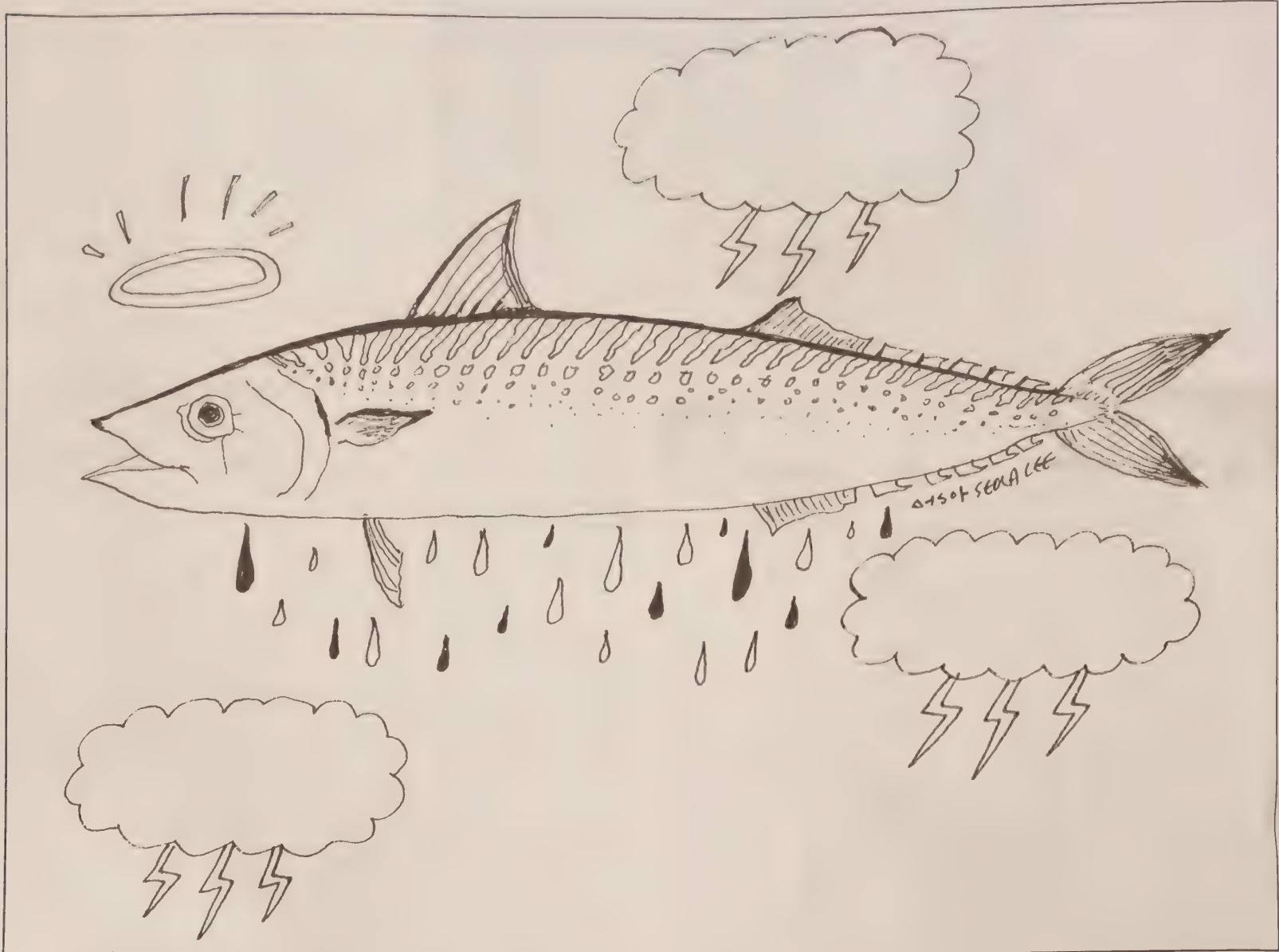
HIPSTERWAVE.COM  
Michael Milosh's music travels back and forth between two worlds.



# CARTOONS, ETC.

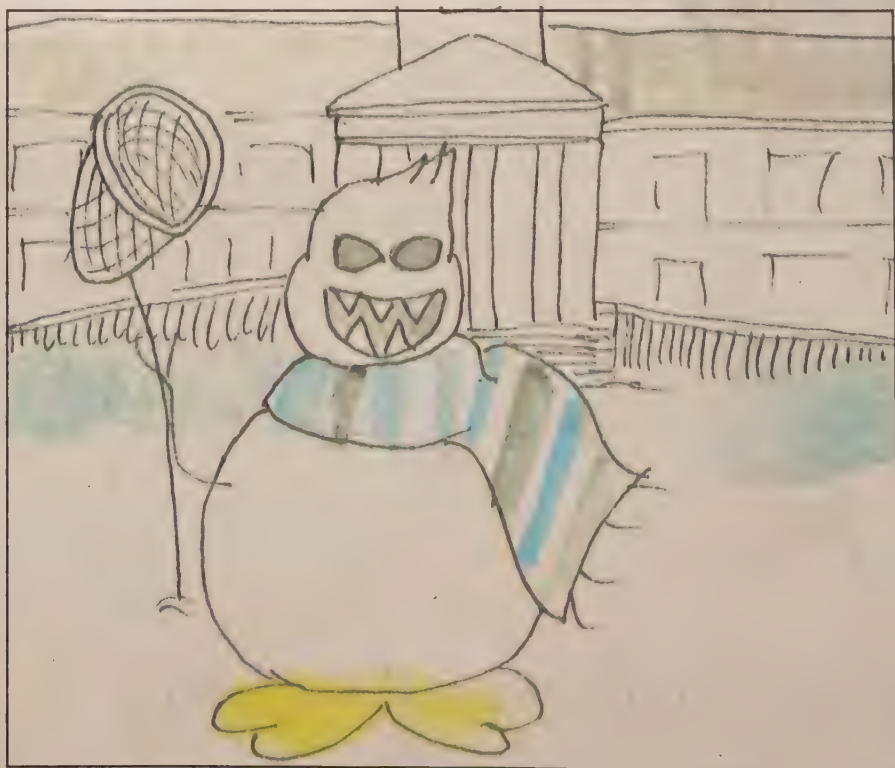
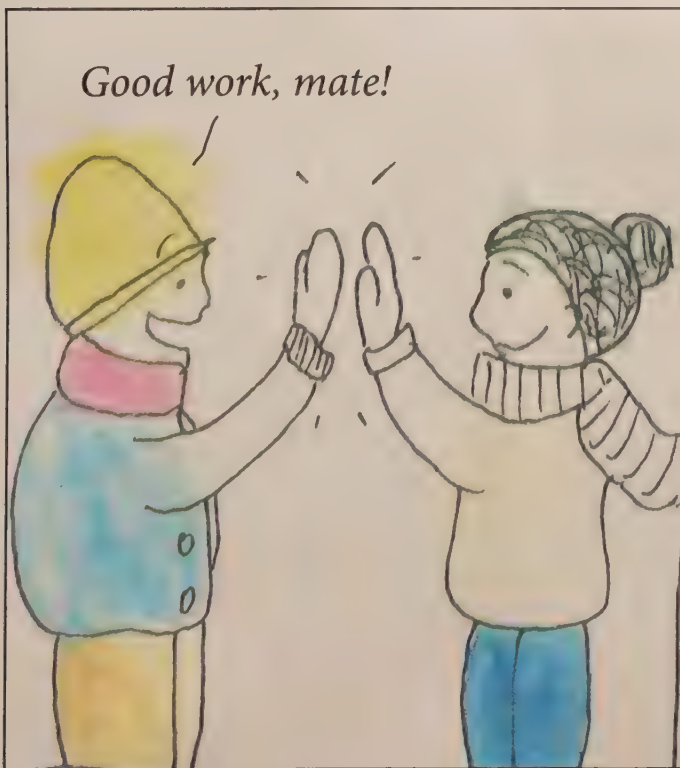
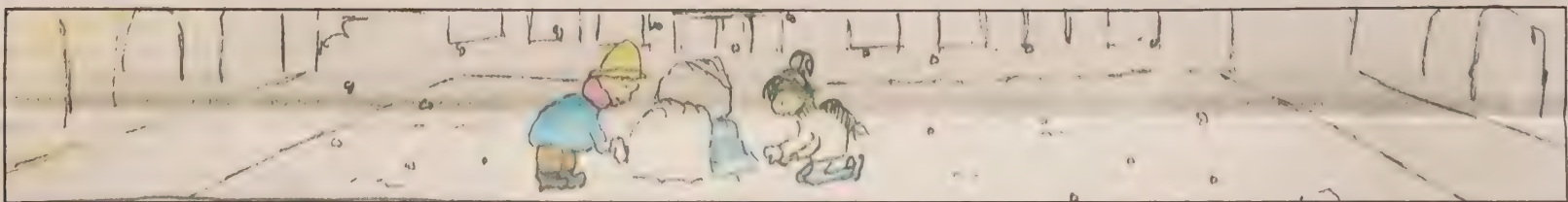
Holy Mackerel!

By Seola



Blue Jay Chronicles

By Sachi



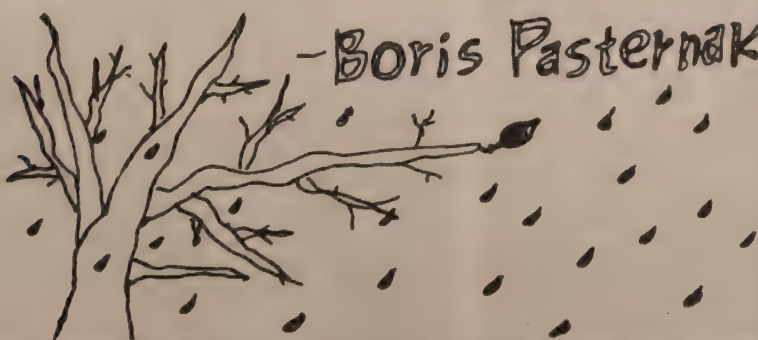
Last Week's Puzzle Solved

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By Shaun McGovern

“Black Spring! Pick up your pen, and weeping,  
of February, in sobs and ink,  
Write poems, while the slush in thunder  
is burning in the black of spring.”

-Boris Pasternak





# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Entrepreneurs invent a watch with no time

By MIKE YAMAKAWA  
Staff Writer

Take a look at your watch or phone and notice the time. How much time has passed since you last thought about school-work, or about your crush? It's probably hard to pinpoint exactly how long it's been since either of these. Maybe you've actually been vacantly staring out the window without real-

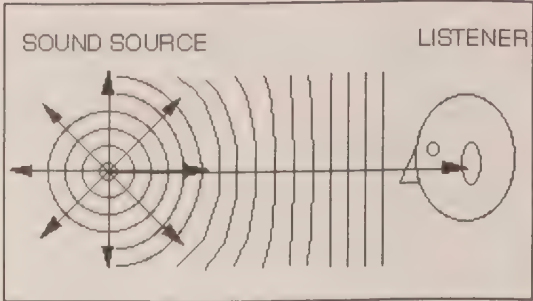
izing how much time has passed. The perception of time can be a disorienting thing. Ten seconds of waiting in a long line at Six Flags may feel like hours, but ten seconds on the roller coaster that you finally got to ride can feel like a millisecond. While working on problem sets at midnight can feel so time consuming, the same amount of time can feel so

much shorter during a final. The mind can be very mischievous in this way. A watch, called Durr, is designed to reorient the wearer in the dimension of time and to free him from the trickeries of the mind. Unlike any watch you have seen before, it has no hands, ticks or numbers; it's just a solid, cylindrical, monochromatic block that is tied around your hands with a leather strap.

It looks nothing more than a really tacky ornament for your wrists — but then it starts vibrating lightly. Then it vibrates again after five minutes. And again.

Durr is like a metro-nome that reminds you when five minutes have passed. It doesn't necessarily tell you what time it is — although you can keep count — but it forces you to reflect what you've done in the past five minutes. Maybe you've actually been thinking about your crush since three vibrations, or 15 minutes, ago, and you need to get yourself together to finish your work. Or maybe it took you six vibrations to read a single page from your biology textbook, when it should have only taken one.

The watch was invented by two Norwegian entrepreneurs, Theo Tvetærås and Lars Marcus Vedeler. They were, as many people have been at some point of their lives, nonplussed about how fast time flies when they were busy in their studio and how it stag-nates immediately on the lazy work days. They de-cided to design Durr to



INTERFACE.CIPIC.UCDAVIS.EDU  
Sound waves are subject to a property called time reversal symmetry.

## Acoustic circulator stops sound reversal

By MARK STUCZYNSKI  
Staff Writer

When Baltimore residents think of a circulator, their minds probably jump to buses moving through the Inner Harbor. When Austin residents think of a circulator, they may think of something a bit more high tech. Scientists at the University of Texas at Austin recently developed an acoustic circulator that acts like one-way glass for sound.

Physical waves such as sound waves travel in two directions. This property, called time reversal symmetry, dictates that a wave moving in one direction can return in the opposite direction. Practically, this means that if you can hear or see someone, that person can also hear or see you with the correct technology and method of observation.

However, this property can be disrupted in the case of radio waves: Scientists have long dis-

covered methods to split a radio signal and avoid having it bounce back. Using magnets, researchers create interference with a unidirectional filter that prevents outbound radio waves from returning to their source, dramatically increasing clarity of signal and making radio transmission of sound and data the ubiquitous technology that it is today.

The acoustic circulator operates on a similar principle. Because sound waves travel through air, manipulation of air pressure and current can make it difficult for sound to reverse and travel in the opposite direction. To test the idea, researchers Andrea Alù, an electrical engineer at the University of Texas at Austin, and Romain Fleury, a Ph.D. student working with Alù, developed a three-pronged, sealed box. Inside the box, a set of fans and CPUs allowed Alù and Fleury to



ECAMPUS.BOISESTATE.EDU  
Our perceptions of time are arguably far more subjective than our experiences with the other three dimensions.

## Hopkins team investigates oxygen deprivation

By CATIE PAUL  
Staff Writer

A newborn baby can suffer from oxygen deprivation for reasons including a blocked airway and a long or difficult delivery,

but no matter the cause, this oxygen deprivation can lead to numerous grave problems, such as impaired mobility or cerebral palsy. Interestingly, these problems seem to preferentially arise in

males, as male children have a harder time recovering from oxygen deprivation than female children do.

While this sex bias is well known within the pediatric medical community, researchers have only recently discovered the reason behind this phenomenon. Scientists at the Johns Hopkins Children's Center have found that estradiol, a sex hormone that binds to estrogen receptors in cells, may be partially responsible for the sex difference in oxygen deprivation recovery.

The team was led by Raul Chavez-Valdez, a neonatologist at the Center. His team, which included Frances Northington, Lee J. Martin, Sheila Razdan and Estelle Gauda, found that estradiol was one cause of the differences in recovery between male and female newborn mice. They also found that neurons in male and female mouse brains suf-

fer from different types of cell death. These specific forms of cell death may be the products of pathways that trigger different sex-specific patterns of cell demise. Lastly, the scientists found that although the brains of male mice suffer more damage, they respond better than female brains to therapies that halt cell death.

SEE OXYGEN, PAGE B8



BIOWEB.UWLAX.EDU  
Estradiol is linked to a sex bias in oxygen deprivation recovery in mice.

## Social status determined by genetics

By SUNNY CAI  
Staff Writer

Imagine a corporation in which the CEO expresses one set of genes and assembly line workers express a completely different set of genes. All employees are born with the same genetic composition, but the genes they express determine their labor role, status in the corporation and quality of life. If the CEO passes away, assembly line workers can adapt to express the "CEO-specific genes" in hopes of assuming the role of CEO.

It turns out ant colonies operate in a manner analogous to the way this hypothetical corporation operates. Led by evolutionary biologist Barbara Feldmeyer, researchers at the Institute of Zoology of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz in Germany found that in *Temnothorax longispinosus*, a small species of black ant, females with the same ge-

netic background could differentiate into either queen ants or worker ants, which differ in morphology, behavior and even life expectancy. Like many of their fellow insects in the order Hymenoptera, including wasps and honeybees, *T. longispinosus*

live in colonies with a distinct societal caste system and a clear division of labor. The researchers discovered that although the queen is normally the only individual in the colony that reproduces, if the queen is absent, young

SEE ANTS, PAGE B8



TULANE.EDU  
Ants live in strict social hierarchies determined by gene expression.



COURSES.BIO.INDIANA.EDU  
Without preventative medicine, people with peanut allergies must completely abstain from ingesting legumes.

## Peanut allergies may be reversible

By KELLY CARTY  
Science&Technology Editor

"Peanuts! Peanuts! Get your peanuts!" Baseball. Summertime. American blamers.

For a growing number of children and parents in high-income countries, this legume-induced map of association skips over images of America's pastime to haunting scenes of anaphylactic shock. Peanut allergies, which describe the immune system's response to a protein found in peanuts, can cut off breathing and lead to a drop in blood pressure, creating a potentially life-threatening situation. Those afflicted with the most serious form of this condition are forced to live a life of hyper-vigilance, double-checking ingredi-

ent lists and menus, reminding friends to avoid eating peanuts around them and avoiding food functions without clear peanut-free zones. However, thanks to a recent trial published in *The Lancet*, this hyper-vigilant necessity may soon change.

Researchers led by Andrew Clark, a pediatric allergist at Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in the United Kingdom, found that oral immunotherapy (OIT), a medical treatment in which allergic children are given small doses of peanut protein everyday, may reverse adverse reactions to peanuts. Clark's team fed 49 children, ages 7 to 16, meals with small amounts of peanut flour. The dose was increased from 2mg to 800mg, about

the equivalent of 5 peanuts, over six months. Sixty-two percent of the participants could tolerate 1400mg of peanut protein, the equivalent of about ten peanuts, at the end of the trial. Eighty-four percent could tolerate a daily dose of 800mg.

The study included a control group of 46 children as well. These participants, also allergic to peanuts, completely avoided legumes during the six-month period. At the end of the trial, no one from the control group could tolerate ingestion of peanut protein. However, after these same children followed the OIT regime in the second phase of the trial, 54% could tolerate 1400mg and 91% could tolerate 800mg.

Studies on peanut  
SEE PEANUTS, PAGE B8



# Ant epigenetics dictates promotion status



AGRICULTURE.PURDUE.EDU  
When higher ranking ants die, worker ants assume the vacated position.

**ANTS, FROM B7**  
brood-tending worker ants often develop ovaries, engage in dominance interactions and become reproductively active within a few weeks.  
To study the genetic differentiation and phenotypic plasticity between queen and worker ants, Feldmeyer and her team of researchers experimentally induced the reproductive potential of female worker ants. To set up their experiment, the researchers first categorized the worker ants in their colony as either foragers or brood-carers, based on what activities each ant engaged in during the ma-

jority of the time. Work task specialization is age-dependent, as young female workers typically tended the brood while older female workers typically performed foraging duties. The experimenters removed the queen ant from the colony and observed the fertility status of the young brood-carers, who now had the potential to become reproductively active and lay eggs, thus leaping over caste boundaries and transforming into queen ants.  
To determine the fertility status of the brood-carers, the ants were frozen to death at sub-zero temperatures before their

ovaries were removed and dissected. The condition of the ovaries determined the fertility status of the workers. "Fertile" brood-carers were those with developed ovaries and eggs, while "unfertile" brood-carers were those with short, undeveloped ovaries and no eggs. Following reproductive status assessment, genomic analyses were performed on the DNA of queen ants and the three castes of female worker ants — fertile brood-carers, unfertile brood-carers and foragers — to determine the similarities and differences in gene expression among members of these ant social castes.  
Genomic studies revealed clear differences in gene expression among the four female castes, signifying the presence of caste-specific genes in *T. longispinosus*. Additionally, while foragers and infertile brood-carers had similar gene expression patterns, their expression patterns differed greatly from those of fertile brood-carers and queens. Compared with the expression patterns of foragers and unfertile brood-carers, the expression patterns of fertile brood-carers resembled those of queen ants much

more closely. Furthermore, genetic analyses revealed that queen ants possessed far more differentially-expressed genes than any of the three worker castes; in other words, in terms of gene expression, queen ants are far more different from all worker ants than worker ants in different castes are from one another. This indicates that in order for brood-carer ants to become queen ants, either their genes have to undergo major modifications or there are novel genes present. This opens up a new door for tremendous advances in the fields of evolutionary and behavioral biology.  
For humans, modifying our genes and altering our gene expression to obtain upward social mobility is neither practical nor ethical. But if ants can bypass the strict caste system of their insect societies and ascend the social pyramid from the bottom to the very top, perhaps humans today ought to reevaluate the structure of their global society, which reserves a life of wealth and privilege to a minuscule minority of its members while confining the masses of its population to a life of poverty and oppression.



EDB.UTEXAS.EDU  
While riding a roller coaster, time seems to warp in unpredictable ways.

# Bracelet reveals secrets of the 4th dimension

**TIME, FROM B7**  
create a tangible connection with time. Despite some criticism about Durr's extreme simplicity and blandness, Tveterås and Vedeler were quite satisfied with the end product they had achieved.  
One of the selling points of their company's merchandise is deeply rooted in its single-purpose, simplistic designs, unlike those seen in many technologies today. For example, a few contemporary watches are able to store music in them, while some music players, in turn, can be strapped on a wrist like a watch. While the benefits of multipurpose items like these are obvious, some users appreciate the unique and aesthetic qualities of unifunctional products like Durr.  
Durr can not only be

a passive notifier of time, but it could also be a useful reminder. For example, if you strap on a Durr during a final, it may help you allocate your time to each question efficiently. If you spend, say, at least one vibration on the first problem to no avail, the next vibration from your watch may be a helpful call to move on.  
The benefits of a watch with no time now seem more believable. Here's the punch, however: Durr currently is sold for \$120. For such a seemingly primitive technology, this may be a hefty price tag for most consumers. However, for those looking for a transcending experience in the dimension of time, it may be a good time to strap on a Durr and see what five minutes really means in your life.

# Allergies are alleviated with peanut dust doses



CLEMSON.EDU  
This mundane plant strikes fear in the hearts of many Americans.

**PEANUTS, FROM B7**  
allergies have been taboo for the last few decades. This medical liminality is largely due to a study conducted in the 1990s in which researchers tried to inject an antigen into the skin of allergic patients. Many par-

ticipants of this study experienced severe side effects, and one participant died due to a dosage error. However, there is a clear need for medical research into peanut allergies. No preventative measures other than complete legume avoidance

are currently available, and this option is hardly sufficient, as nearly half of all children with peanut allergies eat legumes accidentally over the course of a year.  
Thus, Clark's study, in which only one child had to use an EpiPen (to placate an adverse reaction) and no one went to the hospital, may provide a gateway to further research. Clark seems to think he has unlocked a viable treatment: He hopes to offer OIT as a "named patient program," which allows doctors to use unapproved therapies on patients if no other treatment options are available. However, other experts in the field are sobering this approach, pointing to problems with Clark's study.  
Kirsten Beyer, a pediatrician at the Charité University Medicine Berlin, is not satisfied with Clark's trial and would have liked him to use a placebo treatment

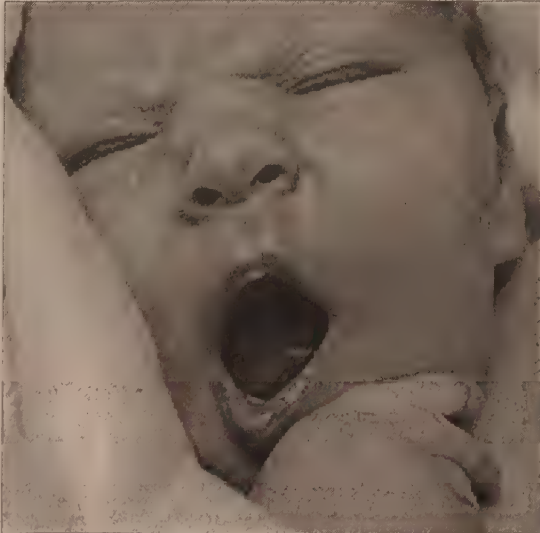
in his control group. Gideon Lack, a pediatric allergist at King's College London questions the long-term effects of OIT treatment. Clark says that his OIT patients could tolerate small gaps, but those who stopped OIT treatment altogether saw their allergies return in nine months. Hugh Sampson, an allergy researcher at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, notes that Clark does not address optimal dose quantity, chemical agents that may make therapy safer or long-term consequences of OIT.  
Though peanut allergies are far from being cured, this study is clearly making movements in the right direction. If you or someone you know has a peanut allergy, continue avoiding legumes, but keep an eye on the medical research. You may be able to return to peanut-baseball word associations sooner than you think.

# Estrogens place disadvantages on male survival

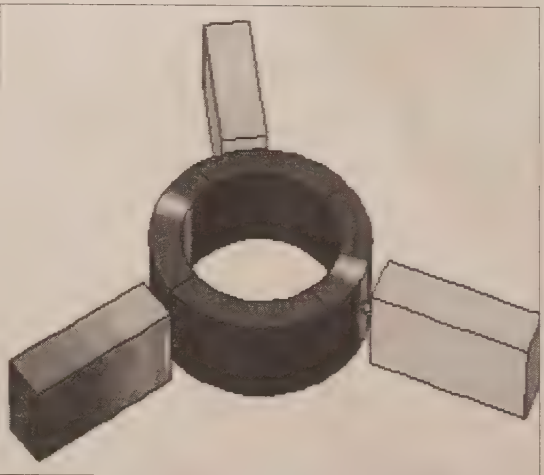
**OXYGEN, FROM B7**  
The investigators have stated that their findings underline the importance of sex-specific research. From what they have discovered, it is apparent that sex-specific differences in cell death appear as early as a few days after birth and likely even before that. Sex differences on the cellular level can play a powerful role in the progress of a disease. Thus, courses of treatment that utilize sex-specific differences can be more effective than those that do not.  
The researchers started out by looking at brain-derived neurotrophic factor, or BDNF. BDNF is known for stimulating the growth of neurons in the brain. After newborn mice experienced oxygen deprivation, there was a spike of BDNF in the brain, followed by a large dip 96 hours later. Both male and female mice brains exhibited this spike and dip pattern. However, what the researchers found was that female mouse brains contained a higher number of a certain type of BDNF receptors that promote a milder type of cell death, known as apoptosis. Apoptosis, programmed cell death, is carried out

naturally billions of times a day in the body of a human adult. The brains of male mice, though, contained fewer of these receptors, causing their brain cells to bypass apoptosis and begin undergoing necrosis. Necrosis is a type of traumatic cell death, usually seen following cellular injury. During necrosis, cells burst or disintegrate and can cause damage to neighboring cells.  
Nectostatin-1, or nec-1, is a molecule that has been shown to halt necrotic cell death in mice. When the scientists treated the oxygen-deprived newborn mice's brains with this drug, they found that male mice responded better than female mice to the treatment. Ninety-six hours after the oxygen deprivation had occurred, the brains of the male mice had 41 percent more BDNF than that of the female mice.  
To determine why this happened, the scientists focused their attention on the sex hormone estradiol. Although estradiol is associated with females, it is also present in small amounts in males. The newborn mice had similar levels of estradiol in their brains, but it seemed to af-

fect them differently. The researchers noted that after treatment with nec-1, the male mice had higher levels of alpha estrogen receptors. These receptors increase cell sensitivity to estradiol, as well as promote BDNF production. The researchers' conclusion is that nec-1 helps the production of these receptors, increasing the amount of BDNF in the male mice's brains.  
The Neurosciences Intensive Care Surgery team

at Johns Hopkins wants to look into the subject further. They are planning to carry out a study on human newborns to track human levels of BDNF in response to brain injury and treatments.  
This research was funded by the National Institutes of Health's National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. The results will appear in the February issue of the journal *Neuroscience*.  


MEDICINE.MISSOURI.EDU  
Males have more complications from oxygen deprivation than females.



USERS.ECE.UTEXAS.EDU  
The accoustic circulator traps unwanted sound to reduce noise pollution.

# New device may help decrease noise pollution

**SOUND, FROM B7**  
manipulate any sound that entered the box. Each of the prongs had a microphone to pick up sound, as well as a small input port.  
Initially, sound input at one port was equally received by the other two and bounced back to its initial port. When the device was activated, however, sound only traveled from port one, to two, to three, and back again, essentially requiring an input at a given port for anything to be heard at the following stage. This forced the sound waves to travel in one direction around the ring. By disabling one stage, it was possible to skip some of the ports, a promising development for sound insulation and transmission.  
While practical applications for the device in spying techniques are obvious, the technology also has promising applications in conventional

sound equipment such as amplifiers, microphones, acoustic-based computer sensing and noise-canceling technologies. The latter development could be of great use for residents near highways or at airports.  
In terms of future research, this acoustic circulator may spawn similar physical exploits to manipulate light to screen objects from sight and effectively render them invisible. Such light developments could also create novel light displays.  
The developers of the original acoustic circulator are currently working on a new design that removes the need to include as many, or any, fans. They hope to regulate the sound transmission entirely by resonance and pressure. While commonplace use of acoustic circulators may be some years away, the potential for a quieter tomorrow is certainly exciting.



## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## Campfires served as social hubs for early humans

By ELLI TIAN  
Staff Writer

Picture yourself as a human 300,000 years ago. You are huddled inside a cave with friends, and there is a hunting party around a burning hearth. As you cut up the afternoon's catch with a newly crafted stone tool, you chat — in whatever communication methods available — about your day. You lean over and whisper to your neighbor about the herd of deer you saw earlier roaming the mountains where you normally hunt. Your friend then suggests to the group that you all fight away the

other people threatening to take your hunting spot.

This scenario might not be as far-fetched as it seems. A recently discovered hearth filled with ash and charred remains suggests that early humans actually held meetings around campfires like this. The hearth, located deep inside Qesem Cave in modern-day Israel, is near a site where archaeologists have previously uncovered traces of burnt ash and soil and cut-up bones of large game animals. The Qesem Cave hearth, which is almost two meters in diameter at its widest point, contains several ash layers, suggesting it

was used multiple times. It is also surrounded by bits of stone tools.

Ruth Shahack-Gross, an archaeologist at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel, thinks that the large size and hidden location of the hearth indicates it was used as a social gathering place for a large group of cave dwellers. These early humans possessed an impressive social intelligence and thus were likely to use fire for more than just cooking meat.

While scientists agree that the ability to control fire gives humans a unique status among animals, there is significant disagreement about which hominid species was the first to control this special tool. Scientists also disagree about the use of early fires. Examinations of *Homo erectus*, a species that dates from approximately 1.8 million years ago, show that the hominid's teeth became smaller and more specialized over time. This suggests that the later *Homo erectus* diet changed from the tough handful of seeds and roots to a plate primarily composed of softer, cooked foods such as meat. This theory seems to

be supported by the burnt soil, bones, clay and ash found in South and East Africa that date to over a million years ago.

In contrast, a study published by Terrence Twomey of the University of Melbourne in Australia argues that properly maintaining fire requires a larger mental intelligence, archaeologically determined from brain capacity, than that characteristic of *Homo erectus*. The paper presents a method for experimentally determining the social and cognitive ability needed to keep a fire going. The campfire found in Qesem Cave, which dates to around the time of early *Homo sapiens*, supports Twomey's idea as it suggests that domesticating fire was a somewhat complicated social endeavor requiring long-term planning and group cooperation.

Regardless of which species was the first to control fire, the campfire discovery reveals significant information about the evolution of hominids. Even without advanced languages or the communication methods we have today, our ancestors may have been extremely social animals.



FUBINISWARTHMORE.EDU

Fires were used by multiple hominid species for cooking and socializing.

## Changing Climate is killing baby penguins



WWW.STANFORD.EDU

Baby Magellanic penguins do not have proper insulation against heavy rain.

By SAMHITA ILANGO  
Staff Writer

It is not large mammals nor hungry creatures that stand as the Magellanic penguin's biggest predator: It is climate change. A recent study conducted by Dee Boersma at the University of Washington claims that changing weather patterns are threatening the chicks of this penguin species.

Boersma, who focuses on conservation biology, has centered her academic research on seabirds as indicators of environmental change. For the past 28 years Boersma has dedicated her investigative efforts to the Magellanic penguins of the South Atlantic. These birds are found in South America, breeding in Argentina, Chile and the Falkland Islands. Boersma has settled on the Atlantic coast of Argentina studying the 200,000 penguins that live there from September to February incubating their eggs and raising their hatchlings.

Climate change has affected the food supply of these penguins as it has displaced the fish population on which these birds usually feed. Because of this the Magellanic penguins have to swim an extra 25 miles beyond their nest. However, Boersma's studies unfortunately indicate that this is not the only climate-related problem these penguins face. Boersma calls this recently discovered problem a new mortality factor.

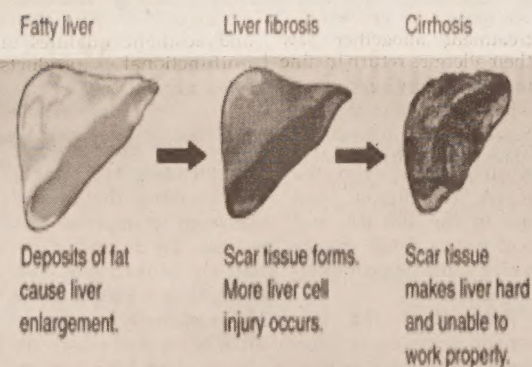
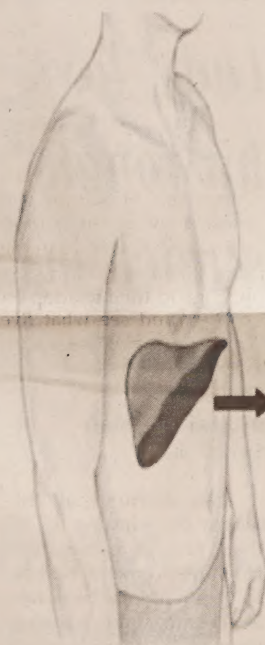
In 1991, an unusual rainstorm in a typically arid area killed as many as 100,000 penguin chicks as starvation and predation combined. Eight years later this rain hit again, killing as many chicks as all other death causes combined. These rainstorms

have immensely affected the penguin reproduction status as they indiscriminately attack penguins of all ages. In the stronger torrential downpours of recent years chicks are preferentially threatened because their thick layer of soft down cannot insulate them properly after becoming sopping wet from rain. Older penguins do not suffer the same fate as waterproof feathers, which provide a stronger layer of insulation, grow in with age.

As a warning Boersma points to climate models that estimate even wetter conditions in the future. However, the penguin's fate is not sealed. Boersma thinks that the penguins can adjust to these conditions if provided with certain provisions such as a protected marine area close for food close to their habitat.

"It's not something that can be solved in a quick fix," Mengli Shi, a Hopkins student studying environmental engineering, said. "As part of the human race, we may be sophisticated enough to ignore and keep on living despite the current effects of climate change, but most of the biosphere will not. Our species is only as healthy as the environment around us. The penguins might be far away, on a beach most people never will see, but soon enough we'll see the same thing happening to our homeland." Shi, who is an environmental advocate on the Hopkins campus, sees this challenge as sign for immediate action: "Climate change is a global issue. This story is just an example of one of many red flag appearing, warning us that we must also adapt to this changing environment, instead of blindly continuing."

## Epilepsy drug may fight obesity-linked disease



DIGESTIVE.NIDDK.NIH.GOV

Valproic acid triggers a physiological hunger signal leading to the breakdown of fatty acids in the liver.

By TONY WU  
Staff Writer

Obesity levels in the United States have steadily increased in recent years. Public media has drawn attention to the growth of this condition often describing obesity as a national epidemic. Medically, obesity is classified as a condition in which an individual's body mass index (BMI), a quantity calculated by dividing the weight in kilograms by the square of the height, exceeds 30. Obesity increases the probability of developing other conditions including cancer and fatty liver disease. While some of these obesity-linked ailments are incurable, researchers at Hopkins have found a drug that can combat one of them. The Hopkins research team discovered that a common medicine for epilepsy can be used to alleviate fatty liver disease.

Valproic acid (VPA), an anticonvulsant drug commonly used to medicate epileptics, was found to have additional physiological benefits during a recent experiment. The drug acts through the AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) pathway, a cellular signaling pathway heavily utilized by pharmaceutical companies in their development of drugs targeting metabolic disorders.

When VPA is ingested, it is processed by members of the cytochrome

P450 enzyme family. Interestingly, the byproducts from the breakdown of VPA proceeded to activate the AMPK pathway, which is an important regulator of metabolism in the human body. This pathway is the body's "hunger signal." Under normal conditions, it is activated when a reduction in energy production within the cell is detected. This pathway increases the available energy in a cell by reducing cellular activities that require energy and by signaling the body to break down fatty acids to produce energy. Therefore, in lieu of AMPK activation, fatty tissues consumption increases and their total volume decreases.

In order to determine whether the drug itself or its post-cytochrome P450 enzyme breakdown byproducts activate the pathway, scientists gave mice cytochrome P450 inhibitors to prevent the breakdown of VPA and therefore prevent the cell from creating VPA byproducts. With the introduction of the inhibitors, the researchers found that AMPK was no longer activated. This suggests that the byproducts of VPA breakdown, rather than VPA molecules, are responsible for pathway activation.

While obesity cannot be directly cured by VPA, fatty liver disease, a serious condition resulting from obesity, can be alle-

viated through the drug. Fatty liver disease is a medical condition that results from high fat deposits within the liver. Obese individuals have a higher fat content, most of which is found in the liver, and therefore a higher chance of developing fatty liver

disease. While people can continue their lifestyles with this condition, fatty liver disease increases the risk of developing liver failure and hepatitis. Fortunately, because VPA promotes the breakdown of fatty acids, the effects of VPA are targeted to the liver where most of the fat is stored. The subsequent activation of AMPK will utilize fat from the liver to produce cellular energy, reducing the fat content within the liver.

The effect of VPA on fatty livers was demonstrated by the Hopkins researchers through animal trials. Obese mice were treated with VPA and the uptake of the drug was monitored. After the administration the mice displayed lowered blood glucose levels and a reduction in the fat deposits within their livers. Moreover, obese mice given VPA maintained their weight while obese mice in the control group continued to gain weight. The researchers are optimistic that valproic acid will be adopted as an option for treating obesity and fatty liver disease.

## Benefits of consuming cow milk are highly overrated

By SOPHIA GAUTHER  
Science & Technology Editor

"Buy six gallons of milk, get the seventh free!" A massive banner draped across the refrigerated aisle promotes the bone-building qualities of a hearty glass of American-made milk. If you think these advertisements are a bit excessive for one grocery store trip you'd be in agreement with Walter Willet, a Harvard University nutritionist who's got a bone to pick with the dairy industry.

In a paper published in the *JAMA Pediatrics* journal, Willet and one of his colleagues detail findings from a decades-long longitudinal study involving 96,000 men, women and their respective cow milk consumption habits. Contrary to common folk wisdom the study found no evidence that drinking milk in adolescence decreases the incidence of hip fractures in later years.

Willet, a quiet man with massive rapport in the nutritional business, steps

up to the soapbox with a great deal of clout. *The Boston Globe* has dubbed him "the world's most influential nutritionist," and for good reason. Willet was a pioneer in the anti-trans fat movement and has performed work on the harmful effects of excess red meat consumption. He is healthy by all accounts of the word, and his daily habits reflect his nutritional beliefs. The man literally practices what he preaches.

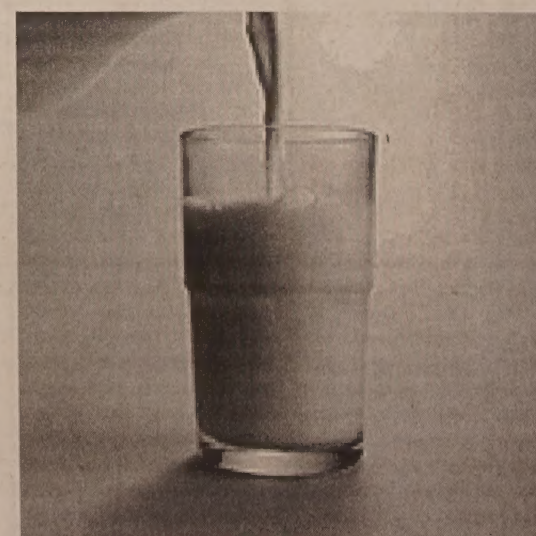
But Willet is no hater. He does not warn against cow milk consumption but instead simply suggests the benefits of imbibing the products of bovine lactation are — for the most part — fictitious. He points to the fact that drinking cow milk is a relatively recent advancement in the history of humankind, explaining that it is a result of culture rather than evolutionary necessity.

Willet, however, is less of a moderate on the issue of advertising. Behind his

tufty mustache and kind eyes, the esteemed Harvardite believes that the billions of dollars poured into junk food advertising need to be redirected. Most of these companies target young children; Willet understands that those early years are criti-

cal for forming life-long eating habits.

While he is quick to clarify that drinking cow milk isn't toxic, he seems rather keen on keeping his trademark handlebar and forgoing the classic marketing mustache. What do you think: got milk?



WWW.CDC.GOV

Consuming animal milk products may not be necessary for health.



SPORTS

# Pellegrino, Stanwick lead 2014 Blue Jays

LACROSSE, FROM A1

to put last season where it belongs: in the past.

"We're just trying to move forward and find our own identity," Schneider said. "We need to focus on what we can control."

Head Coach Dave Pietramala has been stressing three main factors that have nothing to do with ability but everything to do with success.

"If you think about them, they actually make a lot of sense," Pellegrino said. "We have to play tough, we have to play smart and we have to play together. If we can do those three things, we should win almost every game we play."

The team is also trying to stay relaxed for what should be a difficult season. One pre-game ritual in particular helps to lighten the mood.

"Every week we do a different prank," Schneider said. "Last week there was snow, so we started throwing snowballs at coach. One time [midfielder] Phil Castronova impersonated coach, and it was spot on. We borrowed his hat and took one of his jackets out of the lockers."

Aside from the planned pranks, an incident before the team's scrimmage against Georgetown two weeks ago made everyone laugh.

"We were coming out for the Georgetown scrimmage, and we were sending the goalies out," Stanwick said. "The goalies for some reason were taking the balls out of a bucket of like 50 balls. The backup goalie Ryan Feit ended up slipping and sent all the balls down the hallway. I think it loosened every body up for the scrimmage."

Whether it is snowballs or lacrosse balls that foster team chemistry, the Blue Jays are still working towards a playoff berth. However, they plan to keep their heads down and take the season step by step.

"Looking forward and looking to the playoffs is ultimately what hurts teams a lot of times," Schneider said. "Coach always talks about focusing on the process and doing the little things and they'll add up, and I firmly believe in that. If we take care of everything we have to do each and every practice day, it'll give us a good opportunity to succeed against Ohio State. And if we can carry that throughout the season, I think we'll be okay."

Schneider's teammate and captain echoed the thought.

"We're only going to go as far as our next game," Pellegrino said. "We just have to go 1-0 each week."

## The New Season

Despite what has been called a disappointing season, the Blue Jays still managed to finish third in scoring margin last year (3.71), scoring 52 more goals than they allowed across their 14 games. The leader in the category, Cornell (5.50), made it to the semi-finals where they lost to Duke, who narrowly beat Hopkins for second (3.86) and won the entire tournament. If the Blue Jays can maintain an elite scoring margin, history says they are bound for success.

Hopkins will also bring back five of its top 10 point leaders, each of its top three goal scorers and two of its top three turnover creators.

Despite those positive signs, once again the Blue Jays will have one of the most difficult schedules in the nation. Starting this coming Sunday, Hopkins welcomes No. 7 Ohio State to Homewood Field in a matchup Hopkins fans will become used to seeing as the Jays look to enter the Big 10 in 2015. Although the Buckeyes have been a relative newcomer to the top of the lacrosse rankings, head coach Nick Myers has steadily built the lacrosse program over his five years as head coach. The team graduated top scorer Logan Schuss in 2013, but they return a top-notch defense headlined by shutdown defenseman Joe Meurer who was recently drafted 10th overall in the MLL Draft. He will most likely be matched up against Stanwick for much of the game, putting pressure on that new-look offense to produce points right off the bat.

After Ohio State, the slate only get harder for the Blue Jays. The month of March alone will see the team face off against No. 2 Syracuse, No. 9 Virginia and No. 3 North Carolina in back-to-back-to-back weeks. However, playing the best has been a staple of the Hopkins schedule and has been one of the reasons they are always in the mix for a playoff spot, despite a sometimes less than stellar win-loss record.

They will begin the season ranked No. 13 according to ESPN. They will carry a new set of captains, a new goalie and a new offensive scheme. They will enter this season as underdogs for the first time in 41 years, and they couldn't be hungrier.

"I feel like the last couple years we've done a lot of talking," Stanwick said. "A lot of times teams do a lot of talking and we want to stay away from that and go game by game. Two weeks ago we were looking at Georgetown, last week we were looking at Penn State, and this week we're looking at Ohio State."

# Wrestling splits against Stevens and Ursinus

By SCOTT SHEEHAN  
Staff Writer

The Hopkins wrestling team began their most important month of the season this past weekend with a dual meet split with two nationally ranked Centennial Conference opponents. The Blue Jays, who hosted the tri-match at Goldfarb Gymnasium, started their Saturday with a narrow victory over 29th ranked Stevens Institute of Technology 21-19. In their second match of the day against 20th ranked Ursinus College, Hopkins was not able to maintain its early lead over the Bears en route to a 24-6 defeat. At the end of the day, the dual split brought the Jays record to 7-4 overall and an impressive 4-1 in the Centennial Conference.

Against Stevens, the Jays relied on the dominance of their lower weight classes in order to start strong against the Ducks. Junior Paul Bewak scored a technical fall (16-0) over freshman Rob Murray in the opening 125-pound match. Following the strong start was Hopkins senior standout Ray Yagloski, who scored a major decision (13-4) over sophomore Dillon Guarino in the 133-pound division. Fellow senior Duncan Crystal provided even more momentum when he pinned freshman John Moynihan in the 149-pound match. Capping off the early run was junior Christian Salera, who scored a major decision (4-3) against sophomore Leo Wortman in the 157-pound division. Halfway through the dual, Hopkins possessed a huge lead at 18-3.

Just when it looked as if the match was over, the

Ducks were able to cut the Jays lead to two with three straight match victories. Stevens scored a major decision, pin and another decision in the 165,174 and 185-pound matches in order to nearly pull even with the Jays at 18-16.

In an extremely high-pressure match, Hopkins junior Evan Johnson scored a decisive takedown in overtime to narrowly defeat fellow junior Mark Garrity in the 197-pound match (3-1). This victory secured the match for the Jays, who defeated the 29th ranked Ducks 21-19.

The victory against Stevens was the Jays fifth win in their last six dual matches. When asked about the confidence mid-season success brings to the team, Yagloski said, "Being on the winning side of duals in the middle of the season raises the mood of the team as a whole. By winning as a team, we know the work we are putting in is paying off. We use these matches to build momentum for the ultimate goal of being at our best when the Conference, Regional and NCAA Championships come around."

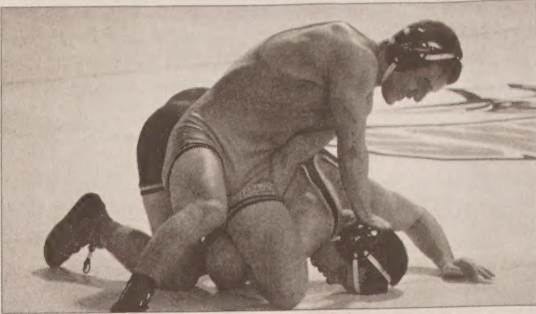
In their second match of the day, the Blue Jays were not able to overcome the 20th ranked Ursinus Bears. Hopkins stormed out to a 6-0 lead in the early going but suffered defeats in eight straight matches en route to a 24-6 loss. All was not lost in the defeat, however, as the Jays were able to score some huge individual victories in the course of the match.

The first match of the dual featured two Titans of Divisions III's 125-pound division. In a

possible preview of the National Championship final, third-ranked Paul Bewak took on top-ranked and undefeated Chris Donaldson of Ursinus. In a predictably close match, neither wrestler scored a point in the three-minute first period. In the second period, Bewak took a 1-0 lead when he scored an

tier opponents that I haven't seen yet this year."

Bewak's two victories on the day improved his season record to 26-1 on the year and brought his career record to 90-16. Bewak became the third wrestler the history of Hopkins wrestling to reach the 90-win mark. He is a mere eight wins away from matching Eric Fishel's



NANCY KIM/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF  
The team's win against Stevens was its fifth in the last six dual matches.

escape after working from the bottom to start the period. To open the third, Donaldson started from the bottom and scored a seemingly decisive reversal on Bewak to take the lead 2-1. Throughout the third period, these two battles to two stalemates and restarts in a desperate attempt to secure a victory. With precious seconds ticking away, Bewak was able to score a reversal of his own with 15 seconds remaining and held on to win the huge match 3-2.

"Every time I wrestle Donaldson, it is very close," Bewak said. "It feels great to come out on top after working so hard in those seven minutes. It showed me some things I did wrong and what I did right, so it's a great way to judge how I will do against other top

school record for wins and is poised to be the first Hopkins wrestler to ever reach 100 victories in a career.

Also scoring a huge victory against Ursinus was Ray Yagloski who defeated freshman Keven Hoogheem (4-1) in the 133-pound weight class for his 24th victory of the year.

The Hopkins Wrestling team next travels to Grantham, Pa. on Friday for a huge match against Centennial Conference opponent Messiah.

## Lady Jays hit rough stretch in February

By JASON PLUSH  
Sports Editor

After starting off the season by winning 13 of their first 16 games, the Hopkins women's basketball team has not been able to sustain their winning ways as the team lost two games in a row against Muhlenberg and McDaniel. To the team's dismay, the stretch of losses continued after facing off against Swarthmore on Jan. 30. The Lady Jays were simply not able to match the firepower of the surging Garnet as Haverford downed Hopkins by a score of 75-47. Two seniors on Haverford, Katie Lytle and Ellie Larson, notched 20 points a piece as the Garnet held onto the lead for the rest of the game halfway through the first half.

Despite the loss, the team was required to have a short memory as they faced off against Haverford just two days later when the Lady Jays travelled to Pa. The Jays defense was stellar throughout the entirety of the game as the team held the Fords to 11 points in the entire first half. Junior Ciara McCullagh led the way for the Jays, scoring 10 of her 11 points in the second half as the Jays down Haverford 44-40 for their first win in four games.

Fruehen and Conteh also contributed with crucial shots down the stretch and proved the team's resiliency with a crucial conference victory. The win pushed the Lady Jays to 13-6 on the season and 11-3 in the Centennial Conference. The Lady Jays will look to maintain their winning ways when they face off against Bryn Mawr this Saturday at Goldfarb Gymnasium. The game is set to start at 1pm as both teams will battle for another critical conference win.

"They have done a great job of leading by example and pushing the underclassmen to improve this season. Lordi and Kimball are ranked one, two in the 100 freestyle right now nationally and are on all of our relays, which are also ranked high nationally. Our freshmen have also brought an incredible amount of enthusiasm to our distance program. Andrew Greenhalgh has been an absolute monster this season in distance free events and continues to not only improve but also help the other distance swimmers become better in the process."

The Jays will hope to continue this success as they head into the Virginia Tech Invitational on February 8-9.

"We just need to keep fighting and training until it is time to rest for the NCAA championships," Acquaviva said. "Since day one of this season our goal has always been to win Nationals and we have not lost sight of that. It all starts with Conferences next week where we have several more guys trying to gain spots for the NCAA championships."

In addition to the individual work each swimmer has put into the season, Acquaviva also pointed out the impact of their new Strength and Conditioning Coach, who brings an impressive pedigree to the program.

"Our coaching staff is absolutely incredible and with the addition of our new strength and conditioning coach Alexios, who works over at North Baltimore Aquatic Club which is home to Michael Phelps and a large number of World Champion and Olympic medalists, we feel that have prepared ourselves to the best of our abilities for the NCAA championships."

# Swimming dominates against MW

By KYLE GILLEN  
Staff Writer

On Friday, Jan. 31, the Hopkins men's swimming team took on Mary Washington. The meet turned out to be a complete sweep for the Jays, helping them continue their already successful season.

The meet started with a win in the 200 Medley Relay. Senior Joe Acquaviva, freshman Evan Holder, junior Greg Kogut and senior Will Kimball were the four-some who took the win with a time of 1:35.29.

Acquaviva spoke on the meet saying, "Our strategy was pretty simple going into the meet: Race. We had just come off arguably our best meet of the year against Navy a few days earlier and it was our last opportunity to swim fast in a meet setting before our championship meets," Acquaviva said. "We knew Mary Washington had some

really fast kids, their one swimmer was even the NCAA champion last year in the 400 IM, and so it was a great chance to race some fast competition as well."

From there the Jays went on to win every other event in the meet as they won all 13 to take a 154-49 win. Hopkins, who is ranked fourth in the country, finished their season with a 7-1 record in dual meets with the woman's team. Throughout the season, the men's team has not let up in any meet so far. Behind an impressive mix of young talent and veteran leadership, the Blue Jays have put together one of their most impressive seasons in recent memory.

Acquaviva commented on the successful season. "We have had tremendous leadership from our seniors all throughout this year, Will Kimball, Anthony Lordi and Dave Woodford," he said.

BLUE JAY SPORTS SCOREBOARD			
Women's Track	Men's Track	M. Basketball	W. Basketball
Jan. 31 - Feb. 1, 2014	Jan. 31 - Feb. 1, 2014	Feb. 1, 2014	Feb. 1, 2014
@ Bison Open	@ Bison Open	@ Haverford	@ Haverford
400 m Race: McDonald, 1st	800 m Race: Carey, 1st	W, 66-59	Feb. 5, 2014
Mile Race: Loebb, 1st	DMR: Salianni, Hyland, Holmgren, Carey2nd		@ F&M
M. Swimming	W. Swimming	Wrestling	Wrestling
Jan. 31, 2014	Jan. 31, 2014	Feb. 1, 2014	Feb. 1, 2014
@ Mary Washington	@ Mary Washington	vs. Ursinus	vs. Stevenson
W, 154-49	W, 162-42	L, 24-6	W, 21-19



## SPORTS

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK ANDREW CAREY - MEN'S TRACK

By **RACHEL COOK**  
Staff Writer

A first place finish in the men's 800 meter run is great; however, finishing in first place while also beating the Hopkins record is incredible.

That is exactly what senior Andrew Carey accomplished this past weekend at the Bucknell University Bison Invitational. Carey's time of 1:53.59 was his career fastest on an indoor track, and it broke the Hopkins record of 1:54.95 set in 2011.

One record-breaking performance was not enough for Carey, who would later return to the track and run anchor for the men's distance medley relay team.

Along with senior Julian Salianni, senior Steve Hyland Jr. and sophomore Trevor Holmgren, Carey helped the team break the Hopkins men's DMR record with a time of 10:09.38, topping the previous time of 10:11.55 set in 2011.

Hopkins finished as the top Division III team at the event and left the tournament newly ranked in the top five in the country.

Carey was kind enough to take the time to answer a few questions for us as *The News-Letter's* Athlete of the Week.

*The News-Letter:* In the 800 meter race, you broke the Hopkins record held since 2011. What does this record mean to you?

Andrew Carey: Breaking the record was very meaningful. I know the old record holder, and he's a nice guy. But to be honest, my bigger goal this year was qualifying for nationals, and I knew I needed to run faster than the record to qualify.

*N-L:* At the time you finished, were you aware that you had broken a school record?



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM  
As a senior, Andrew Carey is enjoying a career year.

really just kind of hoping to hang on. Luckily, I did. In high school, I had an opportunity to set anchor the same relay to a school record. I needed a 4:40 mile. I ran a 4:45, and that was pretty disappointing. This weekend, I needed a 4:13, and I ran 4:11. Needless to say, I've improved a lot. It means a lot more when you have people to celebrate with too.

our goals should be continually evolving as we improve.

*N-L:* What are the goals for the team for the rest of the season?

AC: Our team goal is to win conferences by a lot and have as many people PR in the upcoming meets. I think we would like to see people who haven't scored (at conference) to score. If people are healthy and training well, good things will happen.

*N-L:* What are your goals for the rest of the season? Do you have any more records in sight?

AC: My main goal is to place high at nationals and become an All American. Next weekend, my goal is to run under 4:10 for the mile, which would be a school record. However, my focus isn't to get school records, it's to become as good of a runner as I can. It sounds cliché, but I don't want to be too wrapped up in accolades or records. How likeable is someone who is attached to his or her records, trophies or titles?

*N - L :*

What do you owe your successful season to? What has sparked this record setting performance?

AC: Staying healthy and having consistent workouts. That comes down to getting my work done, eating well and sleeping. To be a successful distance runner, you really need to have good discipline.

*N - L :* How is Coach Van Allen keeping everyone motivated after such high success so early on in the season?

AC: By keeping our heads in the right place and reminding us that

### VITAL STATISTICS

Name: Andrew Carey  
Year: Senior  
Position: Mid-Distance  
Major: Economics  
Hometown: Belmont, Mass.

If, by the time I graduate, I have shown other runners a tangible path to success, then I think I can rest easy.

Carey and the rest of the men's track team will be back in competition this Friday through Saturday at the Boston University Valentine Invitational in Boston, Mass.

## Parson, Shelton leading Women's Track

By **SCOTT SHEEHAN**  
Staff Writer

The Hopkins women's track and field team went into this weekend's race at Bucknell University ranked tenth in the nation. After their impressive performances this weekend, the team should only improve in the rankings. The Blue Jays had many top performances and now have runners in the top 10 in the conference in every track event from the 60-meter dash to the 5k. When asked how the team was able to be competitive in every event, sophomore Alex Popkin said it is due to their commitment and hard work.

"I think our team has so many top runners in different events because everyone is so committed to training hard and improving," Popkin said. "The entire team has been putting in so much work on and off the track to run faster times, and it is definitely paying off."

This weekend was no different as Hopkins seemed to have someone at the front of every race.

Sophomore Brynn Parson has led the team in sprints so far this season and was named the Centennial Conference Track Athlete of the Week for last week. This weekend she continued to dominate placing fifth in the 200 meter in 26.48 for the fastest time in the conference. She also ran a personal best in the 60-meter dash with a time of 8.02, which is the second fastest time in the conference.

Sophomore Megan McDonald finished close be-

hind Parson in the 200-meter, placing seventh with a time of 26.81. She also finished second in the 400-meter dash with a time of 58.98, which was the fastest DIII time in the race. Her times in the 200-meter and 400-meter races now rank second and first in the conference, respectively. Fellow sophomore Emily Nordquist also ran a top conference time placing 10th in the 400-meter with a time of 1:01.27.

Having a strong sprint-



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM  
The Blue Jay women runners have their eyes set on an indoor title.

ing group led by Parson and McDonald has allowed the team to excel by pushing each other every day and motivating each other in workouts.

"The group of us that do the workouts together are all really close and it definitely helps us motivate each other and drive each other to do better when we get to the meets because that's what we do in practice," McDonald said.

Parson and McDonald have been dominating the sprint events this season for Hopkins and the conference, but when it comes to the 800-meter race, senior Maggie Shel-

ton has been in a league of her own. This weekend she broke the school record with a time of 2:12.29, which is currently the fastest time in the nation and helped her win the Centennial Conference Track Athlete of the Week this week. Her time is less than a second away from the conference record. Despite the blazing time, Shelton's goal was never to set any records, but was simply focusing on improving her times.

"I wanted to run a 2:13 or faster this weekend to improve my seed time for nationals which happened to be the record," Shelton said. "But to get the record was a great feeling because Jordan Ireton was one of the best 800 runners to come through Hopkins and I have the utmost respect for her."

Several other Hopkins girls put up top conference 800-meter times in the meet including Popkin, sophomore Hudson VanSlooten and freshman Tess Meehan who finished seventh, eighth and ninth, respectively with times in the low 2:20s.

Junior Frances Loeb was Hopkins' top finisher in the mile finishing second with a time of 5:03 for the second fastest time in the conference. After a breakout season during cross country last fall Loeb has continued to improve and has begun to define herself as one of the top distance runners in the conference.

Sticking with the distance events, senior Jenna Daya also turned in a solid performance finishing third in the 3000-meter race with a time of 10:15.13. Her time ranks her third in the conference.

The 800-meter record was not the only Hopkins record to be broken last weekend. It wasn't even the only record to be broken by Shelton, as the women's 4x400m team of McDonald, I. Johnson, Nordquist and Shelton finished in a time of 4:03.31 breaking the previous school record set in 2010.

The Hopkins girls were able to win the Cross Country National Championship the past two seasons, and with this weekend's performances, could be looking at a shot at an indoor title. Shelton said that even though they are thinking about nationals they try to take it one day at a time to make sure they are in the best shape they can be when nationals comes.

"A national title is definitely in the back of our minds for track. But right now the main focus is cutting down times and preparing the best we can for nationals," Shelton said.

They will continue to try to cut down their times at the Boston University Valentine Invite this Friday and Saturday.

## Hopkins runs to top DIII team at Bucknell

By **ZACHERY OLAH**  
Staff Writer

After a week of hard work and preparation, the Hopkins men's track team hiked to Bucknell University to take part in the 16th Annual Bison Open. This was a two-day event that closed out January and kicked off February for the Blue Jays.

Coming off of a solid weekend in Haverford where freshman Jesse Poore had the best performance of his young career, the team was feeling extremely poised. This time, it was senior Andrew Carey's time to shine. "We have been working out in the cold the last two weeks, which has been tough. But overall, team morale has been high. People made adjustments, and I think it's been working," Carey said.

This was very apparent early on in the competition. One of the main events of the day was the men's distance medley. The relay team was made up of seniors Julian Salianni and Steve Hyland, along with sophomore Trevor Holmgren and Carey. With a time of 10:09.38, the team beat the previous Hopkins record by a full two seconds. The 2011 team held the previous record (Ben Press, Brandon Hahn, Rob Martin and Elliot Wehner). The record breaking pace was set by Salianni, as he started the race by running 1200 meters in just over three minutes. Hyland and Holmgren, who pushed Hopkins ahead in the race, followed up his performance in the two middle legs. This positioned senior Andrew Carey in a very comfortable position to close out the race. His time of 4:11 in the final 1600 meter leg ended up being a personal record. Hopkins' efforts landed them at the top of the leader boards for Division III teams in this event and boosted them into a top five ranking in the country.

The second day of the event started bright and early, and a well-rested Andrew Carey kept his personal success going. This time competing in the 800 meter race, he broke yet another Hopkins record. His time of 1:53.59 beat his friend Elliot Wehner's previous record set in 2011 by just over one second. The previous re-

cord was 1:54.95. "It feels great to break a Hopkins record," Carey said. "However, my goal this season was to qualify and place high for nationals. My time in the 800 should be good enough to qualify. There are some great runners in our conference, and it will be a lot of fun to compete with them."

Carey's final event was the 4x400 relay race. Carey, Poore, Hyland and Holmgren finished the race in second place and ran the fastest time in the event for Hopkins this season.

The mile run featured many more bright performances by several Blue Jays. Salianni finished the race in fourth place with an unbelievable time of 4:22.40. Junior Andrew Ceruzzi and senior Ryan Alvarez finished seventh and 12th respectively, running times of 4:23.08 and 4:28.47.

The crew of field athletes found a bunch of success at the Bison Invitational as well. Soaring to 6.77 meters, junior Alex Naticchia took third place in the long jump event. Junior Ryan Walsh added to his recent success by high jumping 1.94 meters, finishing third in the contest. Freshman Andrew Bartnett closed out the historic day for the Jays by taking second place in the pole vault by propelling himself over a bar set at 4.65 meters.

"[Andrew Bartnett] is an athletic specimen," Carey said. "Everyone is starting to click at the right time."

The future is looking bright for Hopkins as this week's event proved to be another notch higher in their improving trend.

Hopkins has done a great job of boosting individual scores week after week. However, the even more impressive feat is that the Jays have continuously improved as a team throughout each week of the season. The team knows that they cannot let up now. They will resume their work and train harder than ever in preparation for another big event this coming weekend. Their next event is the Boston University David Hemery Valentine Invite. The event will take place on Feb. 7 and 8. The team hopes to continue their success in Boston and keep taking huge steps towards their goal of winning a Centennial Conference Championship.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM  
Head coach Van Allen praised the work of his team this weekend.



# SPORTS

Did You Know?

Wednesday night the women's basketball team played against F&M in the annual "Play 4Kay" game to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness & Research.

CALENDAR

SATURDAY  
M. Basketball vs. Swarthmore, 3:00 p.m.  
W. Basketball vs. Bryn Mawr, 1:00 p.m.  
  
SUNDAY  
M. Lacrosse vs. Ohio State, 11:30 a.m.

## Hopkins Basketball tested by Haverford

By MITCH WEAVER  
Staff Writer

The Hopkins men's basketball team has endured a hard fought season against tough Centennial Conference opponents. However, they've battled through and currently hold an impressive record of 7-4 in conference play. Although the Jays are in a good position, the team knows that all opponents in the conference are a threat; that reminder was seen in full force on Saturday, as the Blue Jays travelled to rival Haverford for a rivalry matchup against the Fords.

Haverford, sporting a 2-9 record in conference play going into the game, decided that Hopkins was a worthy opponent for their best and came out firing on all cylinders. Hopkins, on the other hand, came out uncharacteristically cold and flat as the Blue Jays were unable to gain any momentum early in the first half. On the other hand, Haverford appeared to be playing their best basketball of the season. Haverford opened up a big lead over the Jays heading into the half as Hopkins was unable to find any rhythm.

After consistently trading baskets, Haverford broke ahead with a five point lead after a 12-2 run with eight minutes remaining in the second half. At this time, it appeared that the drought was over as Hopkins responded in grand fashion with back-to-back three balls from senior Dan Corbett and junior Jimmy Hammer.

With a little under three minutes to play, Haverford was clutching to a one point lead that was slowly but surely slipping away from their grip. After baskets by both squads, Hopkins finally broke through the Haverford lead thanks to two huge free throws from junior Luke Chambers. Clinging to the small lead, the Jays finally started to synch up as the offense continued to shoot well. Sophomore Austin Vasiliadis was clutch down the stretch for the Jays as he drained two free throws to pump the lead to three, and with a little over one minute to play, he and junior George Bugarinovic both contributed buckets which stretched the lead to six. From there on out, Haverford had no answer for the late game resur-

gence by the Jays and the game ended 66-59 in favor of Hopkins.

This hard fought win was a big test for the Jays and will help them stay focused moving forward towards the playoffs. Leading the scoring charge in this matchup for the Jays was sophomore Gene Williams who chipped in 13 points while Hammer scored 12. Connor McIntyre was a defensive machine, rejecting five shots from the Fords and recording several key defensive rebounds.

Although a win always feels nice, the members of the team know that they have to perform better in games moving forward. Sophomore Niko Kotoulas spoke about conference play following the win. "In the face of adversity our team realizes that we must always come together as a collective unit in order to accomplish the task at hand," Kotoulas said. "On any given night in the Centennial a team can upset another team. We prevented that from happening against Haverford."

Corbett, who chipped in six points, acknowledged the slow start by the team. "During the Haverford game, we didn't play as well as we would have liked. We got off to a slow start and Haverford capitalized by hitting open shots and forced many turnovers," Corbett said.

At the same time though, he was quick to hand out credit where it was earned and was excited to secure another conference victory. "Our senior captain Connor McIntyre had five blocks and Austin Vasiliadis hit some big shots down the stretch to help us get the win," Corbett said.

Finally, Corbett realizes the opportunity the Jays have in front of them, and knows his team will be up for the task. "We currently sit near the top of the conference and if we continue to play as a team and improve defensively, we have the talent to win the conference," Corbett said. Sitting in fourth place among their centennial foes currently, the Jays will square off against Franklin & Marshall next. The game is Wednesday, Feb. 5 in Goldfarb Gymnasium where the Hopkins faithful will be cheering on the team in the hopes for another conference victory.

## Men's Track sets two Blue Jay records in Pa.



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Anchored by senior Andrew Carey, the men's track team put their stamp on the Bison Invitational by setting Hopkins records in the Distance Medley Relay and the 800-Meter Race. The Blue Jays finished as the top Division III team at the meet among stiff competition including Dickinson and Messiah. Please see Page B11 for full coverage.

## Relaxed atmosphere benefits Lady Jays

By GAURAV VERMA  
Staff Writer

On Jan. 31, the fourth-ranked Hopkins women's swimming traveled to Fredericksburg, Va. for a dual meet with Mary Washington. It was the team's final dual meet, finishing at 6-2 on the season.

The Lady Jays won handily by a score of 162-41. They began the meet by dominating in the 200-meter Medley relay with a team of juniors Melinda Yau and Maggie Storm and freshmen Sarah Westley and Kailyn Koh earning first place in the event with a time of 1:49.83. A team comprised of freshman Helena Arose, sophomore Sean McGrath, junior Ana Bogdanovski and senior Taylor Kitayama took second place in the event giving Hopkins the 1-2 finish.

The Lady Jays also finished first and third in the 3X300 Free relay with freshmen Kristen Kaiser and Emily Lubin and sophomore Ellen Marcus riding a 9:23.81 time to victory in the event. Freshman Lindsay Kriz, junior Selena-Guerrero-Martin and senior Katie Rowland finished in third with a time of 9:37.25. In the 100-meter back, Hopkins secured another 1-2 finish with Yau finishing with a time of 59.15 and junior Kylie Holden finishing at 1:03.27. Hopkins did the same in the 150-meter Breast, with Storm winning the event with a time of 1:09.12, and Koh turning

in a time of 1:13.35, good for third.

Hopkins then swept the next six events beginning with the 150-meter Fly.

Freshmen Shirley Chan and Abby Brown finished 1-2 with times of 1:33.32 and 1:33.32 respectively, while fellow freshman Keri Gawlik finished third with a time

Holden swept the 100-meter IM with times of 1:01.39, 1:01.80 and 1:02.24 respectively.

The Lady Jays also triumphed in mixed events with the men's team sweeping the Mixed 600-meter Medley and finishing 1-2 in the Mixed 400-meter Medley.

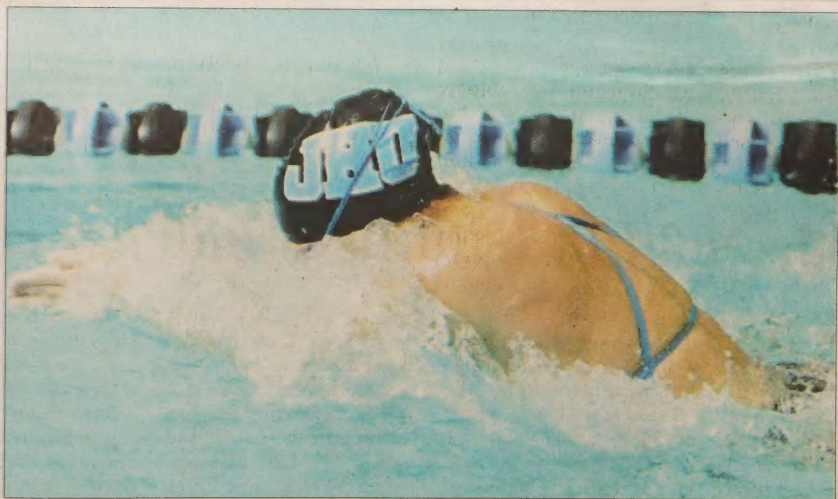
Kitayama attributed the

from seniors. "Their successes have challenged us to swim faster than many of us ever thought possible," Storm said.

The Lady Jays have a busy schedule ahead, as they travel to Blacksburg, Va. to participate in the Virginia Tech Invitational on Feb. 8 followed by the four-day Bluegrass Mountain Conference Championship in Charlotte, NC just three days later.

Bogdanovski commented on what the team needs to do to prepare for the grueling stretch. "Our coaches have a pretty individualized program for us all, resting us based on our needs and the timing of our biggest meet," Bogdanovski said. "But we need to focus outside the pool as well and make sure we get plenty of sleep, don't waste any extra energy on thing besides practice and school and eat healthy. Everything adds up."

Storm commented on a team meeting last week. "Coach [George] Kennedy told us he wanted us to eliminate two words from our vocabulary: always and never," Storm said. "These are limiting words that have no place in our program. Hopkins swimming will continue to improve as long as we believe there is no boundary to what we can accomplish." The team is hoping to be able to translate this confidence into success to close out an already special season.



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The women's swimming team has one more meet before the conference and NCAA tournaments begin.

of 1:37.15. In the 200-meter Free Relay, sophomore Hannah Benn, junior Jill Liwacz and seniors Kylie Ternes and Sarah Rinsma won the event with a time of 1:39.14, while Marcus, Bogdanovski, McGrath and sophomore Megan Auzenberg finished second clocking in at 1:40.61.

To round out the sweep, Kitayama, Kriz, Lubin and Chan finished third with a time of 1:42.36. Kitayama won the 100-meter Free with a 52.72, while Koh edged out Westley by seven-hundredths of a second with a time of 54.90.

McGrath dominated the 150-meter back with a time of 1:35.91, and Benn and Gawlik finished second and third with 1:39.19 and 1:41.04 times respectively. Ternes won the 100-meter fly with a time of 58.19, and Bogdanovski, Fox and

dominating win to not only hard work throughout practice but also the team bonding that took place especially during Intersession.

She said that it was "the most fun we've ever had at a meet."

Storm agreed. "Hopkins swimmers are successful because the only place they'd rather be than in pool, racing, is on deck, cheering (occasionally embarrassingly so) for their teammates," Storm said.

Bogdanovski also attributed some of the fun to nontraditional distances and relays in the meet. She said that the season's success was a result of "training hard since the team's big meet in the fall, working on strength, speed, endurance, and technique." Storm said that the team's successful season stemmed largely from leadership



GUI HUBNER/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Despite sitting at 2-9 in the conference, Haverford put up a good fight.

### Wrestling: 4-1 in Centennial

Against two nationally ranked opponents in the Centennial Conference, the Blue Jays wrestling team held their own in earning a split against Stevens and Ursinus. **Page B10**

### Athlete of the Week: Andrew Carey

The senior from Belmont, Mass. was part of the distance medley relay team at the Bison Open in Lewisburg Pa. that set the Hopkins record with a blazing time of 10:09.38. **Page B11**

### Men's Lacrosse: Season Preview

After a disappointing 2013 season, the men's lacrosse team looks to return to prominence with a new offense, changing defense and a schedule packed with top competition. **Page B10**

INSIDE

INSIDE